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ABSTRACT

A comprehensive description--at the national level--of those who applied for admission to the 1976-77 freshmen class of U.S. medical schools is given in this report. In order to relate this 1976-77 applicant cohort (and those accepted from it) to certain social trends in medical education and to continue monitoring changes in the size of applicant pools and first-year classes, the study also compares the 1976-77 pool (42,155 applicants) with the previous year's end and for certain variables, traces trends over the past five years. Data for the study were compiled by the Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC) and are maintained in the Medical Student Information Service (MSIS). Data are reported on: (1) application activity (applicants and applications, first-time and repeat applicants, and available spaces); (2) demographic characteristics of applicants (residence, age, women applicants, racial/ethnic groups, size of hometown, marital status, and citizenship); (3) academic background (undergraduate college major, highest degree, and academic ability); (4) socioeconomic background (parental income and occupations); and (5) career plans (general plans, specialization plans, expected character of medical practice, and expected location of medical practice). A glossary and bibliography are appended. (LBH)

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DESCRIPTIVE STUDY OF MEDICAL SCHOOL APPLICANTS, 1976-77

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DESCRIPTIVE STUDY OF MEDICAL SCHOOL APPLICANTS, 1976–77

Travis L. Gordon

Division of Student Studies

Association of American Medical Colleges

December 1977

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Purpose

The primary purpose of **Descriptive Study of Medical School Applicants, 1976–77** is to provide a comprehensive description—at the national level—of those who applied for admission to the 1976–77 freshmen classes of U.S. medical schools. In order to relate this 1976–77 applicant cohort (and those accepted from it) to certain social trends in medical education and in order to continue monitoring changes in the size of applicant pools and first-year classes, the study also compares the 1976–77 pool with the previous year's and, for certain variables, traces trends over the past five years.

Data Sources

Data for the study (and for past studies in the annual series) were compiled by the Association of American Medical colleges (AAMC) and are maintained in the Medical Student Information System (MSIS). Most of the data stored in this data base are solicited from medical school applicants via two data collection instruments: (1) the application form processed by the AAMC's American Medical College Application Service (AMCAS) and (2) the questionnaire applicants are requested to fill out when applying to take the Medical College Admission Test (MCAT). Approximately 89 percent of all 1976–77 applicants filed applications through AMCAS, and 98 percent took the MCAT.

In recent years, these instruments have been revised periodically to include additional items. As a result of this and an accompanying increase in the completeness of the data for certain items, the present study is able to incorporate, for the first time in the series, information on several new variables, including size of hometown and marital status.

Major Findings

From the study's analysis of the 1976–77 applicant pool and from comparisons with previous pools, a list of significant findings are summarized below.

1. The phenomenal annual increases in the number of applicants to U.S. medical schools observed during 1971 and 1972 began tapering off in 1973, with a slight downward trend initiated with the 1975–76 pool. This trend continued for 1976–77—the total of 42,155 applying to the 1976–77 first-year class representing a modest decline of 148 from the previous year. Application activity, however, continued to increase, with the average 1976–77 applicant filing at 8.83 medical schools—compared with 8.65 for applicants in the previous year's pool.

2. Since this slight drop was accompanied by an increase of 409 in total acceptances (from 15,365 to 15,774), the chances of being admitted improved from 36.3 percent in 1975–76 to 37.4 percent in 1976–77. The number of first-year places available for newly-entering medical students increased by 372—from 14,910 in 1975–76 to 15,282 in 1976–77. The opening of two new medical schools accounted for 63 of these additional first-year places: 31 at the Uniformed Services School of the Health Sciences and 32 at Wright State University.

3. Applicants seeking admission to medical school for the first time accounted for only 67 percent of the 1976–77 pool. The remaining 33 percent had appeared in either or both of the two previous applicant pools. First-time applicants, as in past years, were far more successful in getting admitted (41 percent of first-time applicants received acceptances, as compared with 31 percent of repeaters).

4. Within this group of first-time applicants, undergraduate college seniors making their first attempt to gain admission—traditionally thought to comprise the bulk of the applicant pool—accounted for only 40 percent of the total 1976–77 applicant pool. The acceptance rate for these "in-phase" applicants was 47 percent—considerably higher than the 37 percent reported for the total pool.

5. The number of women applicants, a record high of 10,244, represented a 7 percent increase over the previous year. Women accounted for 24.3 percent of the total pool and continued to have a slightly higher acceptance rate than men.

6. The number of applicants from minorities that are underrepresented in medicine (i.e., black Americans, American Indians, Mexican Americans, and mainland Puerto Ricans) increased by 9 percent—from 3,049 for 1975–76 to 3,323 for 1976–77. While these applicants continued to experience an acceptance rate slightly above that for the total pool, the 1976–77 acceptance rate for minority applicants (39.5 percent) was slightly lower than for 1975–76 (42.9 percent).

7. Data presented for the first time on size of hometown showed that 41 percent of applicants were from towns with populations of 50,000 or less. Academic achievement and acceptance success were positively associated with hometown size.

8. With regard to academic background, applicants at the bachelor's degree level (85 percent of the pool) were more successful in being accepted to medical school (41 percent were accepted) than were applicants at the master's level (27 percent accepted) and doctoral levels (16 percent accepted). While over half (57 percent) of all applicants had undergraduate majors in either biology, chemistry, or zoology, acceptance success was not strongly related to having majored in a science-related field.

9. Findings on the socioeconomic background of applicants indicated a positive relationship between parental income level and academic achievement (and, as a result, acceptance success). This was reflected in a higher median parental income for acceptees ($21,000) than applicants ($19,700). Fifty-eight percent of all applicants had fathers who were either in the professions (including medicine) or were owners, managers, and administrators.

10. The most noteworthy finding with regard to the career aspirations of 1976–77 applicants was the continued increase in the proportion planning on general/primary care practice as their "major career activity" (as opposed to specialty practice, research and/or teaching, administration, etc.). Only 27 percent of the 1973–74 applicant pool, the proportion interested in these "first-contact" practices was 43 percent for 1976–77. With regard to a particular specialty, 52 percent of respondents foresaw entering one of the primary care fields—i.e., family medicine, internal medicine, or pediatrics.

11. Of the total 1976–77 applicant pool, 52 percent (of those responding) anticipated establishing practices in areas with populations of 50,000 or less. Of special interest, however, was the 15 percent planning to locate in very rural areas (populations of less than 2,500). Additional analysis of these location preferences revealed that applicants generally planned to practice in areas similar to their own hometowns.

I. INTRODUCTION

The primary purpose of this study is to provide a comprehensive description— at the national level— of those seeking admission to the 1976–77 freshman classes of U.S. medical schools. By comparing these applicants with the previous year's pool (and in some cases with applicants in the past five applicant pools), the study also attempts (a) to relate the 1976–77 pool and those accepted from it to the broader context of current social trends in medical education and (b) to continue monitoring changes in the size of applicant pools and first-year classes. While observations on a number of these trends are given in the text of the study, summary data on application activity and on topics of special interest, such as women and minority applicants, are presented (when possible) in five-year trend tables and graphs.

The information appearing in the present study (and in preceding annual studies in the series) has as its source data collection instruments that periodically are revised to include additional items. As a result, the 1976–77 study includes, for the first time in the series, information on applicants' size of hometown and marital status. An accompanying increase in the completeness of the data in the last few years has also made it possible to include, for 1976–77, applicant data by citizenship and a trend table for minority applicants. (In past studies, these variables were described in terms of first-year enrollment figures rather than applicant data.) A distribution of the applicant pool (and acceptance rates) by various college degree levels is also discussed.

Section III of the report, which discusses the findings for the 1976–77 applicant pool, is divided into five major parts. Part A, on application activity, presents summary data at the national level with regard to the size of the applicant pool, application frequency, acceptance rates, and the number of repeat applicants. A school by school breakdown of application activity for 1976–77 is also included. A description of the demographic characteristics of the pool comprises Part B. While Part B contains subsections devoted specifically to minority and women applicants, discussions of these two subpopulations appear throughout the study. The educational backgrounds and academic achievement of applicants are presented in Part C, as is an analysis of the relationship between certain demographic variables and academic ability. Following this discussion of academic background, Part D is devoted to a description of socioeconomic background characteristics and the relationship of these to academic achievement and acceptance success. Various facets of the career aspirations of applicants to the 1976–77 freshman class are analyzed in Part E.

For those variables discussed in Section III that are of particular interest and for other variables, such as those describing career plans, that receive summary treatment in the body of the study, a series of ten computer-produced tabulations have been appended. For the total pool and for each subcategory of a given variable, these tabulations provide comparative data on the academic ability of accepted versus nonaccepted applicants. Due to the complexity of these tabulations, they are accompanied by a brief commentary.

II. METHODOLOGY

A. Data Sources

Information on applicants and acceptees to the 1976–77 first-year class was retrieved from the Medical Student Information System (MSIS), which is maintained by the Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC). Data stored in the MSIS on individual applicants are gathered from two major sources: (1) the American Medical College Application Service (AMCAS) application form and (2) the questionnaire accompanying the Medical College Admission Test (MCAT).

The AMCAS was utilized by 37,598, or 89 percent, of the 42,155 applicants in the 1976–77 pool. Since AMCAS processes all the academic and background information required of applicants, the individual records for AMCAS participants are more complete than those for the remaining 11 percent of the pool. Items appearing in the study that were available only for AMCAS applicants are country of foreign citizenship, highest degree held or expected, and undergraduate college mean grade-point average (GPA). For non-AMCAS applicants, the AAMC collects information from the medical schools regarding acceptance status and certain basic items of information—i.e., name, social security number, sex, age, legal residence, MCAT scores, undergraduate college, and undergraduate major.

Added to the above items of information—for both AMCAS and non-AMCAS applicants—were the data available from the questionnaire accompanying the MCAT. These include demographic and socioeconomic background variables as well as responses to questions regarding the applicants' anticipated career plans. Approximately 98 percent of the 1976–77 applicant pool filled out this questionnaire.

Data from the following secondary sources also appear in the study: (1) income data are taken from *Money Income and Poverty Status of Families and Persons in the United States: 1975 and 1974 Revisions (Advanced Report)*, and (2) the number of black freshmen enrolling in undergraduate colleges from 1969 to 1975 were computed from data in annual editions of *The American Freshman: National Norms*. Full references are given in the bibliography. Data for past applicant pools, which are used in comparisons, are from previous applicant studies.

B. Method of Analysis

Since the 1976–77 study is, in the main, a replication of the study completed on 1975–76 applicants, it was possible, in many cases, to run previously written computer programs against the 1976–77 file. Modified versions of these programs (along with standard statistical packages) were used to produce the additional data mentioned in the Introduction.

In order to identify applicants who had also applied for admission to medical school in previous years, a computer match of the 1976–77 file was run against the files for both the 1974–75 and 1975–76 applicant pools. In past studies, the definition of repeat applicant was limited to those who had appeared in the preceding year's pool only. Because of the increased competition for first-year places, however, applicants are often advised to wait more than one year before reapplying in order to obtain maximum benefit from additional coursework.

C. Statistical Tests

To determine the significance of differences in mean MCAT scores and GPAs between two groups of applicants (e.g., the mean MCAT Science scores of men and women applicants), a *t* statistic was utilized. This measure estimates the probability that a difference of a particular magnitude might occur by chance without reflecting real or significant differences between the means. Only in cases where this probability is less than .05 is the difference interpreted to reflect real differences—i.e., the chance that the particular difference would occur when there was no difference between the two groups is less than 5 out of 100.

To ascertain the statistical significance of differences in the acceptance rates that are reported in the study, Figure 1 gives, for selected sample N's, the minimum percentage-point difference that is significant at the .05 level. The national acceptance rate of 37 percent, the percentage from which differences are measured, is indicated by the broken line intersecting the curves.

Using Figure 1 it is possible to discern, for example, that the 41 percent acceptance rate for those applicants who had an undergraduate major in chemical engineering was not significantly higher than the 37 percent rate for all applicants. Although the acceptance rate for these applicants is 4 percentage points higher, the *minimum* percentage-point difference that is significant for such a small number (there were only 189 of these applicants) is well over 6 points.

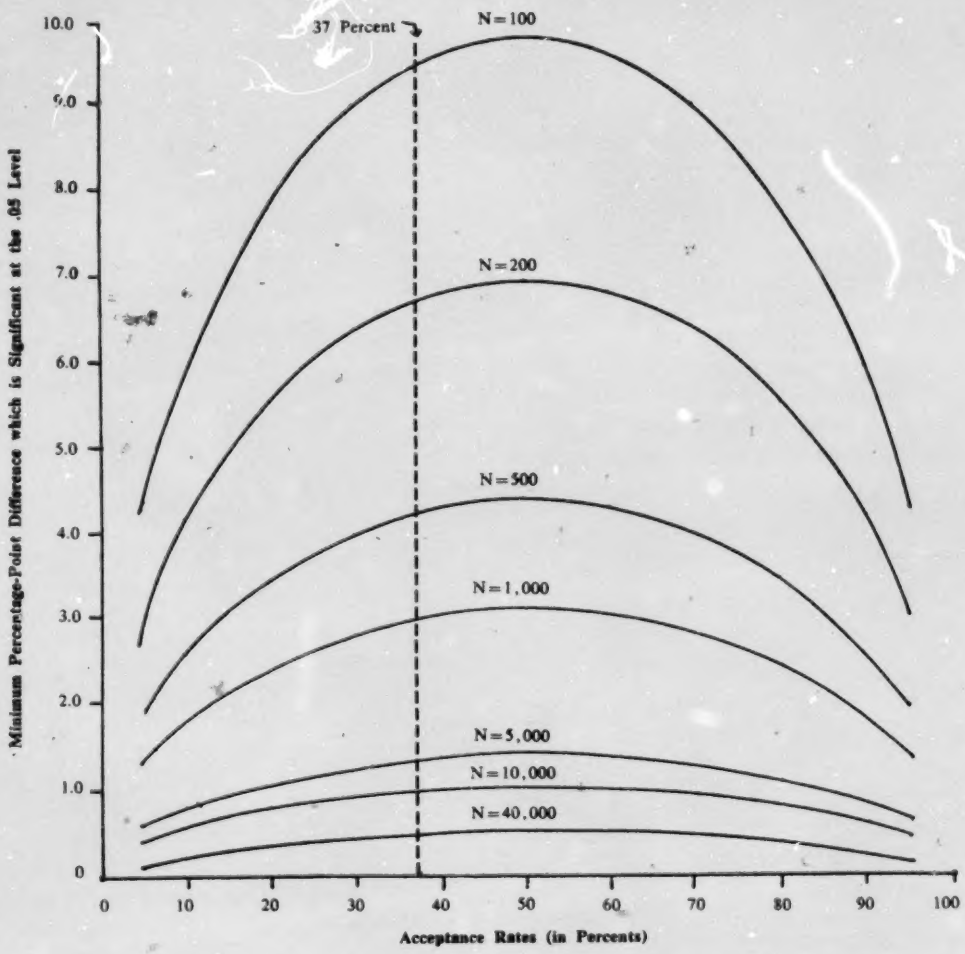

Figure 1
Difference in Acceptance Rates which are Significant at the .05 Level

III. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

A. Application Activity

1. Applicants and Applications

Beginning with the 1973–74 applicant pool, the annual number of individuals seeking admission to U.S. medical schools began to plateau. This is illustrated in Figure 2, which, in giving an overview of application activity for the past ten applicant pools, lends perspective to the five year period that is the focus of the present study. (Detailed data are given in Table 1 for these five most recent applicant pools.) As shown in Figure 2, the phenomenal annual increases in the number of applicants to U.S. medical schools observed for 1971–72 and 1972–73 began tapering off for 1973. For 1975–76 the annual applicant pool showed a modest decrease (321 applicants), the first in nine years. This slight downward trend continued for 1976–77, the total of 42,155 applicants representing a decrease from the previous year of 148 (a .3 percent drop). Application activity, however, has continued to increase. For 1976–77, each applicant filed at an average of 8.83 medical schools, making for a record 372,282 total applications—6,242 more than for 1975–76, or a 1.7 percent increase (derived from Table 1).*

The total number of applicants accepted increased by 409 (2.7 percent) from 1975–76 to 1976–77. (This rise in the number of acceptances was due in part to the addition of two new medical schools—Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences and Wright

* In selecting their 1976–77 first-year classes, three additional schools participated in the American Medical College Application Service (AMCAS), bringing the total number of AMCAS schools to 86. AMCAS processed 294,927 or 79.2 percent of all applications filed, which included applications for 37,598 individuals (89.2 percent of the applicant pool). These figures represent slight increases over 1975–76 when AMCAS processed 78.8 percent of the applications, and the service was utilized by 89.1 percent of all applicants.

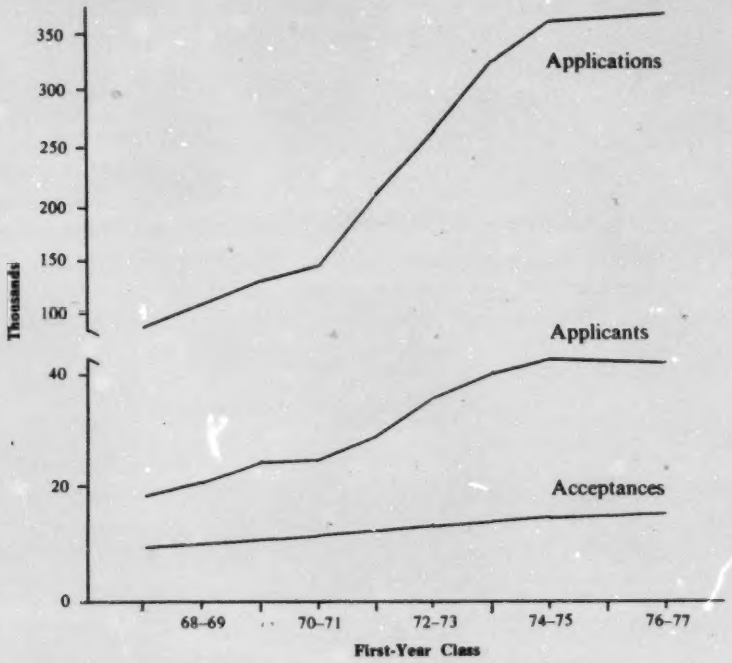

Figure 2
Comparative Changes in Number of U.S. Medical School Applicants, Applications, and Acceptances, 1967–68 Through 1976–77

Table 1
Summary of Information on Applications to U.S. Medical School, 1972–73 Through 1976–77

First-Year Class	No. of Medical Schools	No. of Applicants	No. of Applications	Applications per Individual	Accepted Applicants	Applicants per Acceptance	Percent of Total Applicants Accepted
1972–73	112	36,135	267,306	7.40	13,757	2.63	38.1
1973–74	114	40,506	328,275	8.10	14,335	2.83	35.4
1974–75	114	42,624	362,376	8.51	15,066	2.83	35.3
1975–76	114	42,303	366,040	8.65	15,365	2.75	36.3
1976–77	116	42,135	372,282	8.83	15,774	2.67	37.4

State University School of Medicine.) Due to lack of growth in the size of the pool and the continued annual increase in the number of freshman places available, the acceptance rate for applicants rose from 36.3 percent for 1975–76 to 37.4 percent for 1976–77.

For 1976–77 the Early Decision Plan (EDP) was utilized by 58 of the 116 medical schools.* Of the more than 2,100 applicants applying through the EDP, 839 or 38.9 percent received the early acceptance, thereby reducing the total number of applications filed by approximately 6,500 (derived by assuming these applicants would have filed an average of 8.83 applications in the regular competition). Of those EDP applicants not receiving an early acceptance (approximately 1,300), 1,024 remained in the applicant pool, with 463 (45 percent) gaining admission through regular channels.

The number of applications filed by a single applicant in the 1976–77 applicant pool ranged from 1 (which included those accepted through EDP) to 108: However, the majority of applicants—25,975, or 62 percent of the pool—filed applications at fewer than 9 medical schools. For both accepted and nonaccepted applicants filing a given number of applications, Table 2 gives the mean score on the Science subtest of the Medical College Admission Test (MCAT). Excluding those accepted applicants filing only one application (the MCAT mean score for this group is inflated by the well-qualified applicants accepted through the EDP program), MCAT Science scores for acceptees rise steadily from 599 for those filing 2 to 5 applications to 650 for those filing 31 to 75 applications. A parallel but lower distribution of mean scores exists for nonaccepted applicants. (The lack of any clear association between application frequency and mean grade-point averages [GPA] may be due to variations in the grading standards among undergraduate institutions.)

This association of large numbers of applications with higher test scores is reflected in the fact that the chances of receiving at least one acceptance went steadily from 25 percent for those filing one application (the 34 percent given in Table 2 is adjusted to exclude EDP acceptees) to 52 percent for those 962 applicants filing applications at 26 to 30 schools.

Of the 15,774 applicants accepted to the 1976–77 first-year class, 4,876, or 31 percent, were accepted by at least two medical schools, while 520 received offers from at least five schools. This latter group included two first-time applicants who each received offers of acceptance at thirteen medical schools. One had filed 18 applications; the other, 27. This is the first applicant study in recent years to report on multiple acceptances.†

2. First-Time and Repeat Applicants

When discussing the total number of individuals seeking admission to U.S. medical schools for 1976–77 and the relatively few first-year places available to them, it is important to note that these statistics do not describe an applicant pool composed entirely of individuals making their first attempt to gain admission. Of the total applicant pool for

*Under this program, well-qualified applicants file at a single school (usually by August 1, or a year before the date for which they seek admission) and receive the school's decision within two months. An EDP applicant may not apply to any other U.S. medical school during the time his/her credentials are being considered for early decision and must attend that school if admitted. If not admitted under the EDP, he/she may be reconsidered by that school as a regular applicant and may apply to other schools.

† For a distribution of the 1976–77 applicant pool by number of applications and acceptances, see J. M. Cuca, "Applications vs. Acceptances to the 1976–77 First-Year Class of U.S. Medical Schools (*Journal of Medical Education*, 52:1010–1012, 1977).

Table 2
Application Frequency, Acceptance Rates, and Ability Levels of Applicants to the 1976–77 First-Year Class

Frequency Groups*	Total Applicants		Accepted Applicants per Frequency Group		Ability of Applicants: Mean MCAT Science Scores		Ability of Applicants: Mean Total GPA	
	No.	Percent	No.	Percent	Accepted	Not Accepted	Accepted	Not Accepted
1	7,613	18.1	2,551	33.5	606	521	3.54	3.11
2–5	10,809	25.6	3,173	29.4	599	534	3.49	3.10
6–8	7,553	17.9	2,740	36.3	614	548	3.52	3.14
9–11	4,910	11.6	2,003	40.8	619	553	3.50	3.13
12–15	4,283	10.2	1,896	44.3	628	566	3.47	3.14
16–20	3,177	7.5	1,520	47.8	635	579	3.47	3.17
21–25	1,727	4.1	851	49.3	640	582	3.48	3.16
26–30	962	2.3	499	51.9	638	583	3.46	3.17
31–75	1,106	2.6	538	48.6	650	597	3.47	3.19
76 or over	15	.0	3	20.0	571	570	3.62	3.08
Total	42,155	100.0	15,774	37.4	618	546	3.50	3.13

* By number of applications per applicant.

Table 3
Comparative Acceptance Data for First-Time and Repeat Applicants, 1976–77 First-Year Class

Category	Men		Women		Total	
	Number	Percent Accepted	Number	Percent Accepted	Number	Percent Accepted
First-Time Applicants						
Accepted	8,533	40.6	2,959	41.0	11,492	40.7
Total	21,036	—	7,224	—	28,260	—
Repeat Applicants*						
Accepted	3,319	30.5	963	31.9	4,282	30.8
Total	10,875	—	3,020	—	13,895	—
All Applicants						
Accepted	11,852	37.1	3,922	38.3	15,774	37.4
Total	31,911	—	10,244	—	42,155	—

* Repeat applicants include those who also applied for either the 1974–75 or the 1975–76 first-year class.

1976–77, 11,164 (26.5 percent) had also sought admission to the 1975–76 freshman class. This compares with 10,922 repeat applicants for 1975–76 (25.8 percent of that pool). Using this definition of repeat applicant, then, the annual increase in the number of repeaters continued for 1976–77. When the definition of repeat applicant is modified to include those who applied to either of the two previous first-year classes, repeaters totaled 13,895, or 33.0 percent of the 1976–77 pool.* In other words, the number of individuals seeking admission to medical school for the first time was a maximum of 28,260. (This is an

* This modified definition of repeat applicant—i.e., those applying to either of the two previous first-year classes—is employed throughout the present study. This change in the definition should be considered when comparing the 1976–77 repeat and first-time applicant data with those published in previous studies.

overestimate since it no doubt includes a few applicants who waited more than two years before reapplying.) The acceptance rate for these "first-time" applicants was 41 percent, compared with 31 percent for repeaters (Table 3).

Among repeat applicants, women had an acceptance rate of 31.9 percent, which was 1.4 percentage points higher than that for men (30.5 percent). For first-time applicants, however, the acceptance rates for men and women were closer—40.6 percent and 41.0 percent, respectively, a difference of less than half a percentage point.

As shown in Table 4, approximately half the repeat applicants in the 1976 pool had either received their bachelor's degree in 1975 (4,791, or 34 percent) or were 1976 graduating seniors who had previously applied to medical school in their junior year (2,140, or 15 percent). In contrast, 32 percent had received their bachelor's degree in 1973 or earlier. Acceptance rates for repeat applicants rose steadily from 24 percent for this latter group to 52 percent for the small group of repeat applicants expecting to receive their bachelor's degree in 1977 or later.

A similar relationship between graduation status and acceptance success was also evident for first-time applicants. Those receiving their bachelor's degree in 1973 or earlier had an acceptance rate of only 28 percent, compared with one of 47 percent for 1976 college graduates.

The second major observation in Table 4 concerns this latter group of first-time applicants. Traditionally thought to comprise the bulk of the applicant pool, college seniors seeking admission to medical school for the first time accounted for only 40 percent of 1976–77 applicants (16,767 of 42,155). These "in phase" applicants experienced an acceptance rate of 47 percent, compared with an acceptance rate of 31 percent for the remainder of the 1976–77 applicant pool. Compared with 1975–76, the chances of gaining admission may have increased slightly for this in-phase component of the pool (the acceptance rate for 1975–76 was 45 percent). What appears to be a decline of approximately 1,000 in the absolute number of in-phase applicants from 1975–76 to 1976–77 is due to the modified definition of repeat applicant employed for the present study—that is, those identified as "in phase" last year included some applicants who had waited more than a year before reapplying. (The exclusion of such applicants in this year's in-phase group could account for the slightly increased acceptance success.)

3. Available Places

The number of new-entrant places open for 1976–77 first-year medical students (15,282) was 372 more than the 14,910 new-entrant places for the previous year (Table 5). This represented a 2.5 percent increase—compared with a 3.4 percent increase for 1975–76—and thus continued the declining rate of growth observed in previous applicant studies.* The new-entrant figure is slightly less than the total number of acceptances offered, since it excludes 492 acceptees who did not matriculate. (As shown in Table 5 in the column labeled "Acceptees not Matriculating,"

* In computing the increase for 1975–76, the additional class at New York Medical College is excluded (see footnote to Table 5).

Table 4
Graduation Status and Acceptance of First-Time and Repeat Applicants to the 1976–77 First-Year Class

Date Bachelor's Degree Granted or Expected	Status When Applying	First-Time Applicants(FTA) Total No.	Total Percent	Accepted No.	Accepted Percent of FTA Total	Repeat Applicants(RA)* Total No.	Total Percent	Accepted No.	Accepted Percent of RA Total
1973 or before	Graduate	6,596	23.3	1,839	27.9	4,488	32.3	1,094	24.4
1974	Graduate	873	3.1	262	30.0	2,409	17.3	632	26.2
1975	Graduate	2,806	9.9	1,003	35.7	4,791	34.5	1,469	30.7
1976	Senior	16,767	59.3	7,856	46.9	2,140	15.4	1,052	49.2
1977 or later	Junior or less	1,218	4.3	532	43.7	67	.5	35	52.2
Total		28,260	100.0	11,492	40.7	13,895	100.0	4,282	30.8

* Repeat Applicants include those who also applied for either the 1974–75 or the 1975–76 first-year class.

Table 5
Comparisons of Accepted Applicants, Nonmatriculants, and Enrolled First-Year Students, 1972–73 Through 1976–77

First-Year Class	No. of Medical Schools	Total Accepted Applicants	Acceptees not Matriculating		First-Year Enrollment				
					New Entrants		Other*		
			No.	Percent	No.	Percent	No.	Percent	Total Enrolled†
1972–73	112	13,757	405	2.9	13,352	97.6	325	2.4	13,677
1973–74	114	14,335	459	3.2	13,876	98.0	283	2.0	14,159
1974–75	114	15,066	487	3.2	14,579	97.7	341	2.3	14,920§
1975–76	114	15,365	455	3.0	14,910	97.5	385	2.5	15,295
1976–77	116	15,774	492	3.1	15,282	97.9	331	2.1	15,613

* First-year students repeating the year or reentering after previously being enrolled.
† Data from AAMC fall enrollment surveys.
§ Varies from previously published figure since it includes an additional first-year class of 157 admitted by New York Medical College in the spring of 1975.

the number of nonmatriculants has increased slightly over the past five years.) Additional analysis of this group for 1976–77 revealed that 2.9 percent of accepted men did not matriculate, compared with 3.7 percent of women acceptees. As shown in Table 5, the total number of freshmen medical students actually enrolled for 1976–77 included these 15,282 newly entering students plus 331 previously enrolled students who were either reentering or repeating the first year.

Table 6 gives the number of new-entrants for 1976–77 at each of the 116 U.S. medical schools. Compared with the total number of new entrants admitted in 1975–76, 47 schools experienced increases for 1976–77, although the size of these increases was not as striking as in previous years. Only four schools showed gains of 20 or more: Texas-Houston, 36; Alabama-Birmingham, 21; and North Carolina and Mount Sinai, 20 each. Ten other schools increased their new-entrant places by 10 or more. Twenty-two schools had slight declines in the number of new entrants, while 45 schools registered no change over the previous year. Sixty-three of the new first-year places were provided by two new medical schools: Uniformed Services School of the Health Sciences (Bethesda, Maryland) and Wright State University (Dayton, Ohio).

Publicly controlled medical schools, which now number 68, enrolled the majority of new first-year students (59 percent). On the other hand, the 48 private medical schools, with their less stringent state residence requirements, attracted more applications. Of the 372,282 applications for 1976–77 first-year places, 237,728, or 64 percent were received by private schools.

The eight states enrolling more than 500 new first-year students--the same states reported in the 1975–76 study—were, in descending order: New York (12 medical schools), 1,620; Pennsylvania (seven medical schools), 1,075; Illinois (seven medical schools), 1,066; California (eight medical schools), 958; Texas (six medical schools), 847; Ohio (five medical schools), 702; Michigan (three medical schools), 593; and Massachusetts (four medical schools), 544. For the remaining states, the distribution of new entrants was as follows: 200 to 500 new entrants in fifteen states and the District of Columbia; and less than 200 in twenty states and the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico. Delaware, Maine, and Wyoming have no medical schools. Alaska, Idaho, and Montana have medical education programs through an interstate arrangement with Washington known as the WAMI Program.

The 3,777 women new entrants for 1976–77 represented 24.7 percent of the national total. This compares with 23.6 percent for 1975–76. For 1976–77, women accounted for at least 30 percent of the new entrants at 26 of the nation's 116 medical schools. Those schools matriculating the highest proportion of women (40 percent or more) were: Medical College of Pennsylvania, 62.2 percent; State University of New York-Stony Brook, 52.1 percent; California-Davis, 44.0 percent; Missouri-Kansas City, 40.5 percent; and Brown University, 40.0 percent.

Table 6
Applicants and New Entrants by Medical School and Sex, 1976–77 First-Year Class

Name of School* (by State or Territory)	No. of New Entrants to First-Year Class			Total No. of Applicants		
	Men	Women	Total	Men	Women	Total
Alabama						
*Alabama—Birmingham	135	31	166	767	164	931
*South Alabama	56	8	64	724	135	859
Arizona						
*Arizona	66	22	88	509	138	647
Arkansas						
*Arkansas	101	21	122	497	111	608
California						
*California—Davis	56	44	100	2,868	1,089	3,957
*California—Irvine	56	14	70	2,580	930	3,510
*California—Los Angeles	111	34	145	3,003	1,005	4,008
*California—San Diego	76	20	96	2,678	926	3,604
*California—San Francisco (includes special program at Berkeley)	102	56	158	3,632	1,449	5,081
Loma Linda	135	31	166†	3,309	866	4,175
Southern California	107	30	137	3,025	955	3,980
Stanford	57	29	86	3,849	1,268	5,117
Colorado						
*Colorado	87	38	125	1,258	362	1,620
Connecticut						
*Connecticut	58	22	80	1,051	450	1,501
Yale	71	28	99	2,224	871	3,095
District of Columbia						
George Washington	116	34	150	6,758	2,132	8,890
Georgetown	165	40	205	7,040	2,134	9,174
Howard	85	39	124	3,862	1,334	5,196
Florida						
*Florida (Includes Florida State—Florida A&M)	92	33	125	2,031	512	2,543
Miami	108	25	133	1,131	238	1,369
*South Florida	77	16	93	838	193	1,031
Georgia						
Emory	88	23	111	3,961	910	4,871
*Med. Coll. Georgia	153	27	180	1,178	315	1,493
Hawaii						
* Hawaii	49	17	66	1,122	278	1,400
Illinois						
Chicago Medical	87	28	115	4,735	1,306	6,041
Chicago—Pritzker	89	15	104	5,129	1,475	6,604
*Illinois	255	87	342	1,852	595	2,447
Loyola (Stritch)	106	37	143	4,500	1,429	5,929
Northwestern	123	47	170	5,747	1,741	7,488
Rush	73	47	120	2,512	872	3,384
*Southern Illinois	49	23	72	999	291	1,290
Indiana						
*Indiana	230	75	305	1,402	440	1,842
Iowa						
*Iowa	134	40	174	681	205	886
Kansas						
*Kansas	149	51	200	731	217	948
Kentucky						

Table 6—*Continued*

Name of School* (by State or Territory)	No. of New Entrants to First-Year Class			Total No. of Applicants		
	Men	Women	Total	Men	Women	Total
*Kentucky	85	23	108	1,092	318	1,410
*Louisville	100	35	135	1,194	297	1,491
Louisiana						
*Louisiana State—New Orleans	149	26	175	777	195	972
*Louisiana State—Shreveport	77	19	96	667	157	824
Tulane	121	27	148	6,109	1,458	7,567
Maryland						
Johns Hopkins	97	23	120	2,583	920	3,503
Maryland	134	42	176	1,181	497	1,678
*Uniform Services Univ.	26	5	31	1,507	191	1,698
Massachusetts						
Boston	82	52	134	3,300	1,344	4,644
Harvard	114	51	165	2,567	1,017	3,584
*Massachusetts	68	31	99	1,038	441	1,479
Tufts	98	48	146	6,727	2,311	9,038
Michigan						
*Michigan	171	66	237	3,437	1,075	4,512
*Michigan State	66	39	105	2,159	736	2,895
*Wayne State	201	50	251	2,397	626	3,023
Minnesota						
Mayo	32	9	41	1,374	392	1,766
*Minnesota—Duluth	30	6	36	756	189	945
*Minnesota—Minneapolis	188	51	239	1,365	378	1,743
Mississippi						
*Mississippi	115	35	150	486	126	612
Missouri						
*Missouri—Columbia	92	18	110	907	252	1,159
*Missouri—Kansas City	44	30	74§	44	30	74
St. Louis	131	26	157	5,923	1,438	7,361
Washington—St. Louis	93	27	120	4,725	1,353	6,078
Nebraska						
Creighton	89	20	109	6,628	1,641	8,269
*Nebraska	120	33	153	879	240	1,119
Nevada						
*Nevada	38	10	48	530	106	636
New Hampshire						
Dartmouth	49	16	65	2,260	826	3,086
New Jersey						
*New Jersey Med.	78	32	110	2,006	795	2,801
*Rutgers	76	32	108	2,476	1,017	3,493
New Mexico						
*New Mexico	48	25	73	800	265	1,065
New York						
Albany	89	38	127	3,264	1,068	4,332
Albert Einstein	122	53	175	4,638	1,649	6,287
Columbia	95	53	148	3,405	1,455	4,860
Cornell	71	30	101	5,266	1,934	7,200
Mount Sinai	71	30	101	3,038	1,193	4,231
New York Med.	128	50	178	3,282	1,238	4,520
New York Univ.	124	47	171	3,483	1,333	4,816
Rochester	68	29	97	3,166	1,211	4,377
*State Univ. New York—Buffalo	93	42	135	3,310	1,189	4,499
*State Univ. New York—Downstate	165	54	219	3,666	1,418	5,084
*State Univ. New York—Stony Brook	23	25	48	1,926	850	2,776

Table 6—*Continued*

Name of School* (by State or Territory)	No. of New Entrants to First-Year Class			Total No. of Applicants		
	Men	Women	Total	Men	Women	Total
*State Univ. New York—Upstate	83	37	120	3,187	1,180	4,367
North Carolina						
Bowman Gray	92	16	108	4,534	1,181	5,715
Duke	82	32	114	3,099	953	4,052
*North Carolina	114	46	160	1,320	459	1,779
North Dakota						
*North Dakota	54	14	68	131	30	161
Ohio						
Case Western Reserve	92	46	138	5,232	1,694	6,926
*Cincinnati	129	55	184	4,275	1,234	5,509
*Med. Coll. Ohio—Toledo	91	24	115	1,442	385	1,827
*Ohio State	185	48	233	1,647	495	2,142
*Wright State	22	10	32	2,226	645	2,871
Oklahoma						
*Oklahoma	140	36	176	806	168	974
Oregon						
*Oregon	94	21	115	595	194	789
Pennsylvania						
Hahnemann	144	38	182	4,527	1,560	6,087
Jefferson	176	47	223	4,154	1,247	5,401
Med. Coll. Pennsylvania	37	61	98	2,608	2,187	4,795
Pennsylvania	114	46	160	3,862	1,384	5,246
Pennsylvania State	75	23	98	1,706	567	2,273
Pittsburgh	104	31	135	2,627	792	3,419
Temple	139	40	179	4,064	1,372	5,436
Rhode Island						
Brown	36	24	60	403	154	557
South Carolina						
*South Carolina	134	31	165	944	221	1,165
South Dakota						
*South Dakota	55	11	66	530	103	633
Tennessee						
Meharry	82	40	122	1,938	661	2,599
*Tennessee	171	32	203†	622	133	755
Vanderbilt	69	14	83	4,760	1,336	6,096
Texas						
Baylor	130	38	168	2,810	845	3,655
*Texas—Galveston	161	41	202	1,788	526	2,314
*Texas—Houston	83	17	100	1,768	533	2,301
*Texas—San Antonio	93	42	135	1,792	511	2,303
*Texas—Southwestern	173	29	202	1,937	544	2,481
*Texas Tech	34	6	40	1,146	271	1,417
Utah						
*Utah	91	9	100	1,143	243	1,386
Vermont						
*Vermont	62	21	83	1,729	599	2,328
Virginia						
Eastern Virginia	41	23	64	1,055	303	1,358
*Med. Coll. Virginia	124	42	166	2,210	682	2,892
*Virginia	106	27	133	2,900	809	3,709
Washington						
*Washington	134	41	175	1,300	403	1,703
West Virginia						
*West Virginia	75	14	89	323	81	404

Table 6—*Continued*

Name of School* (by State or Territory)	No. of New Entrants to First-Year Class			Total No. of Applicants		
	Men	Women	Total	Men	Women	Total
Wisconsin						
Med. Coll. Wisconsin	104	32	136	2,556	725	3,281
*Wisconsin	115	44	159	1,213	381	1,594
Puerto Rico						
*Puerto Rico	102	38	140	391	165	556
ALL SCHOOLS	11,505	3,777	15,282	281,821	90,461	372,282
Subtotals by Control						
Private (N=48)	4,601	1,633	6,234	179,455	58,273	237,728
Public (N=68)	6,904	2,144	9,048	102,366	32,188	134,554

* Asterisks identify schools that are publicly controlled.
† Loma Linda and Tennessee each admitted two entering classes.
§ For 1976–77, Missouri-Kansas City selected for Year 1 of their 6-year program, 80 of 413 high school graduates applying. The figures in Table 6 are for Year 3 of the program (equivalent to the freshman year at other medical schools) and include only those students promoted from Year 2. For 1976–77, no new students transferred into the program at the Year 3 level.

B. Demographic Characteristics of Applicants

1. State of Legal Residence

The chances of gaining admission to the 1976–77 first-year class varied substantially depending on the applicant's state of legal residence. The proportion of applicants accepted is given in Table 7 for residents of each state and the District of Columbia and the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico. These acceptance rates, which are rank ordered in the first column, ranged from 61 percent (79 of 129 applicants) for residents of South Dakota to 24 percent (15 of 63 applicants) for residents of New Hampshire.

For 1976–77, as for past years, the two states furnishing the largest number of applicants were New York (4,951) and California (4,067). More than one of every five applicants to the 1976–77 first-year class (21 percent of the total pool) was a resident of one of these two states. (California and New York contained 18 percent of the 1976 U.S. population.) Ranking third through tenth were the following states: Pennsylvania, 2,782; Illinois, 2,134; Texas, 2,032; Michigan, 1,884; Ohio, 1,840; New Jersey, 1,678; Florida, 1,331; and Massachusetts, 1,120 (Table 7). Compared with the 1975–76 applicant pool, the number of residents from these states showed little change—except for residents of New York, who declined by 277, or 5.3 percent. Of the remaining states, the greatest changes occurred for residents of Georgia (an increase of 119 or 18 percent) and Tennessee (an increase of 155 or 22 percent).

2. Age*

The decline in the proportion of the applicant pool below age 24 and the resultant increase in mean age for medical school applicants observed in the 1975–76 study continued for 1976–77. This trend may be attributed in part to the growing number of repeat applicants in the annual pools. The proportion of applicants below age 24—67.7 percent for 1974–75 and 63.8 percent for 1975–76—declined to 62.6 percent for 1976–77 (derived from Table 8). These younger students accounted for 75.0 percent of acceptees, compared with 75.2 percent in 1975–76 and 79.6 percent in 1974–75.

The mean age for 1976–77 applicants was 24.2 (compared with 23.8 for 1974–75 and 24.1 for 1975–76). As in previous years, women applicants, compared with men, had a slightly higher mean age—24.3 and 24.1, respectively. For acceptees, this difference in mean ages was slightly greater—23.3 years for women and 22.9 for men. This is explained by the acceptance rates in Table 8: for applicants under age 24, acceptance success was greater for men; while for those 24 and over, the chances of being accepted were greater for women. The mean age for repeat appli-

* For this study an applicant's age is calculated as of September of the year he/she would be matriculating in medical school.

Table 7
Applicants and Applications by Acceptance Category, Place of Residence, and Sex, 1976–77 First-Year Class

Place of Residence	Rank by Percent Accepted	Applicants Receiving One or More Acceptances				Applicants Not Accepted			Total	
		No. of Men	No. of Women	Total	Percent Accepted	No. of Men	No. of Women	Total	No. of Applicants	No. of Applications
[illegible]bama	14	216	46	262	44.0	277	57	334	596	2,738
[illegible]ska	11	11	4	15	45.5	11	7	18	33	322
[illegible]ona	33	113	32	145	36.4	197	56	253	398	3,257
[illegible]nsas	40	110	22	132	34.2	208	46	254	386	1,129
[illegible]fornia	48	930	367	1,297	31.9	2,015	755	2,770	4,067	56,523
[illegible]orado	45	125	47	172	32.8	271	82	353	525	4,035
[illegible]nnecticut	46	141	57	198	32.7	315	93	408	606	7,446
[illegible]laware	18	17	15	32	41.6	34	11	45	77	761
[illegible]rict of Columbia	32	44	28	72	36.9	72	51	123	195	1,491
[illegible]rida	41	361	85	446	33.5	725	160	885	1,331	11,141
[illegible]rgia	31	234	58	292	37.0	403	94	497	789	4,146
[illegible]waii	23	60	20	80	39.2	102	22	124	204	1,479
[illegible]ho	25.5	24	4	28	38.9	39	5	44	72	639
[illegible]nois	10	719	255	974	45.6	866	294	1,160	2,134	17,590
[illegible]iana	15	251	87	338	43.7	319	117	436	774	4,215
[illegible]wa	5	131	50	181	49.9	139	43	182	363	1,754
[illegible]nsas	2	171	56	227	57.0	133	38	171	398	1,838
[illegible]ntucky	13	182	61	243	44.5	242	61	303	546	2,203
[illegible]isiana	12	301	70	371	44.6	354	106	460	831	3,725
[illegible]ine	7	36	11	47	48.5	33	17	50	97	865
[illegible]ryland	39	260	101	361	34.7	458	220	678	1,039	8,454
[illegible]ssachusetts	37	269	122	391	34.9	508	221	729	1,120	14,007
[illegible]chigan	44	473	147	620	32.9	994	270	1,264	1,884	12,763
[illegible]nnesota	28	281	71	352	38.4	441	124	565	917	5,567
[illegible]ssissippi	8	130	41	171	46.1	153	47	200	371	1,201
[illegible]ssouri	17	218	68	286	42.5	303	84	387	673	4,133
[illegible]ntana	6	39	12	51	48.6	40	14	54	105	967
[illegible]braska	20	163	42	205	40.3	251	53	304	509	1,870
[illegible]vada	30	34	10	44	37.9	62	10	72	116	535
[illegible]w Hampshire	52	12	3	15	23.8	38	10	48	63	659
[illegible]w Jersey	49	390	144	534	31.8	854	290	1,144	1,678	20,641
[illegible]w Mexico	42	65	31	96	33.3	134	58	192	288	1,538
[illegible]w York	22	1,362	583	1,945	39.3	2,183	823	3,006	4,951	78,873
[illegible]rth Carolina	25.5	203	65	268	38.9	325	96	421	689	3,959
[illegible]rth Dakota	9	47	15	62	45.9	63	10	73	135	473
[illegible]o	29	528	175	703	38.2	895	242	1,137	1,840	14,472

Table 7—*Continued*

Place of Residence	Rank by Percent Accepted	Applicants Receiving One or More Acceptances				Applicants Not Accepted			Total	
		No. of Men	No. of Women	Total	Percent Accepted	No. of Men	No. of Women	Total	No. of Applicants	No. of Applications
Oklahoma	38	152	38	190	34.8	299	57	356	546	2,267
Oregon	24	114	25	139	39.0	160	57	217	356	2,594
Pennsylvania	36	746	252	998	35.9	1,365	419	1,784	2,782	24,980
Puerto Rico	50	108	37	145	31.4	208	109	317	462	1,507
Rhode Island	47	31	13	44	32.6	66	25	91	135	1,566
South Carolina	19	152	34	186	40.7	217	54	271	457	1,944
South Dakota	1	66	13	79	61.2	47	3	50	129	427
Tennessee	43	232	48	280	33.1	464	103	567	847	2,599
Texas	27	627	157	784	38.6	969	279	1,248	2,032	13,442
Utah	51	89	6	95	26.9	224	34	258	353	2,231
Vermont	4	33	11	44	51.8	38	3	41	85	586
Virginia	21	265	104	369	40.2	417	133	550	919	5,481
Washington	34.5	143	40	183	36.2	248	74	322	505	4,425
West Virginia	34.5	75	12	87	36.2	120	33	153	240	883
Wisconsin	16	226	86	312	43.5	310	95	405	717	4,944
Wyoming	3	32	7	39	55.7	24	7	31	70	425
Foreign*		58	17	75	14.9	320	108	428	503	4,252
Unidentified		52	17	69	32.9	100	41	141	210	259
U.S. Territories & Possessions (Excluding Puerto Rico)		0	0	0	.0	6	1	7	7	61
TOTAL		11,852	3,922	15,774	37.4	20,059	6,322	26,381	42,155	372,282

* Since data in this table are presented by place of residence rather than by citizenship, the total of 503 foreign applicants includes only those specifying a foreign country as their *legal residence*.

Table 8
Acceptance Rates of Applicants by Age and Sex, 1976–77 First-Year Class

Age*	All Applicants				Men			Women		
	No. Applicants	Percent of All Applicants	No. Accepted	Percent Accepted	No. Applicants	No. Accepted	Percent Accepted	No. Applicants	No. Accepted	Percent Accepted
20 and under	965	2.3	609	63.1	631	418	66.2	334	191	57.2
21–23	25,441	60.4	11,214	44.1	19,446	8,630	44.4	5,995	2,584	43.1
24–27	11,153	26.5	2,939	26.4	8,589	2,148	25.0	2,564	791	30.9
28–31	3,376	8.0	803	23.8	2,505	551	22.0	871	252	28.9
32–37	982	2.3	187	19.0	601	97	16.1	381	90	23.6
38 and over†	188	.4	21	11.2	99	8	8.1	89	13	14.6
Unknown	50	.1	1	2.0	40	0	0.0	10	1	10.0
Total	42,155	100.0	15,774	37.4	31,911	11,852	37.1	10,244	3,922	38.3
Mean Age	*24.2*		*23.0*		*24.1*	*22.9*		*24.3*	*23.3*	

* As of September 1976
† The oldest male applicant was 53, and the oldest male accepted was 47. The oldest female applicant was 51, and the oldest female accepted was 45.

Table 9
Women Applicants to U.S. Medical Schools and Women New Entrants, 1972–73 Through 1976–77 First-Year Classes

First-Year Class	Total Applicants	Women Applicants		Total New Entrants*	Women New Entrants	
		Number	Percent		Number	Percent
1972–73	36,135	5,480	15.2	13,352	2,251	16.9
1973–74	40,506	7,202	17.8	13,876	2,726	19.6
1974–75	42,624	8,712	20.4	14,579	3,264	22.4
1975–76†	42,303	9,575	22.6	14,910	3,512	23.6
1976–77	42,155	10,244	24.3	15,282	3,777	24.7

* Excludes repeating and reentering first-year students.
† Includes 213 applicants and 104 new entrants for whom gender information was unavailable.

cants was 24.8 years compared with a mean age of 23.9 for those applying for the first time.

3. Women Applicants

The 10,244 women applying to medical school for 1976–77—once again a record high—was 669 greater than for 1975–76 (Table 9). This seven percent increase compares with a ten percent relative growth for the previous year. Over the past five years the number of women applying to medical school has increased by 87 percent. While women accounted for only 17 percent of the new first-year students in 1972–73, they claimed approximately one of every four new first-year places for 1976–77.

As the number of women applicants has continued to increase, the proportion who are accepted has dropped slightly, approaching the acceptance ratio for men. For 1976–77, the differential in acceptance rates between men and women was only 1.2 percentage points—38.3 percent for women and 37.1 percent for men (Table 10). This compares with a differential of 2.3 percentage points for the previous year. (Additional information on women applicants is included elsewhere in this report.)

4. Racial/Ethnic Groups

Although the overall applicant pool for 1976–77 was slightly smaller than for 1975–76, the number of applicants from those racial/ethnic groups other than white/Caucasian increased by 377 (from 5,903 to 6,280), representing a 6.4 percent increase. These groups comprised 14.9 percent of the 1976–77 pool (Table 11).

When the number of applicants choosing each of the racial/ethnic self-descriptions is subdivided by gender (Table 11), the proportion of women in each group ranges from a high of 39.2 percent for black Americans to a low of approximately 21 percent for Mexican Americans (20.7 percent) and Cubans (20.8 percent). Among white/Caucasian applicants, 23.0 percent were women. Acceptance rates for women were higher than those for men in the following racial/ ethnic groups: black American (40.2 percent for women and 37.0 for men), white/Caucasian (39.5 percent for women and 38.4 percent for men), mainland Puerto Rican (44.2 percent for women and 38.1 percent for men), Cuban (35.2 percent for women and 32.9 percent for men), and Other (26.9 percent for women and 21.3 percent for men). Higher acceptance rates for men occurred among American Indians (33.7 percent for men and 22.2 percent for women), Mexican Americans (50.9 percent for men and 38.9 percent for women), American Orientals (35.2 percent for men and 34.2 percent for women), and Commonwealth Puerto Ricans (31.5 percent for men and 22.4 percent for women).

The 3,323 applicants from minorities underrepresented in medicine (black American, American Indian, Mexican American, Puerto Rican—U.S. main-

Table 10
Comparative Acceptance Data for Men and Women Applicants, 1972–73 Through 1976–77

First-Year Class	No. of Applicants		No. of Applications		Average No. Applications Per Person		No. Accepted		Percent Accepted	
	Men	Women	Men	Women	Men	Women	Men	Women	Men	Women
1972–73	30,655	5,480	228,585	38,721	7.5	7.1	11,398	2,359	37.2	43.0
1973–74	33,304	7,202	271,630	56,645	8.2	7.8	11,488	2,847	34.5	39.5
1974–75	33,912	8,712	288,962	73,414	8.5	8.4	11,674	3,392	34.4	38.9
1975–76*	32,515	9,575	281,684	84,013	8.7	8.8	11,619	3,639	35.7	38.0
1976–77	31,911	10,244	281,821	90,461	8.8	8.8	11,852	3,922	37.1	38.3

* Excludes 213 applicants for whom gender information was unavailable.

Table 11
Self-Description and Sex of Applicants and Acceptees to U.S. Medical Schools, 1976–77 First-Year Class

Self-Description	Applicants			Percent All Applicants	Acceptees			Percent All Acceptees	Percent All Applicants Accepted
	Men	Women	Total		Men	Women	Total		
White/Caucasian	25,937	7,728	33,665	79.9	9,983	3,055	13,038	82.7	38.7
Underrepresented minorities									
Black American	1,535	988	2,523	6.0	569	397	966	6.1	38.3
American Indian	92	36	128	.3	31	8	39	.2	30.5
Mexican American	365	95	460	1.1	186	37	223	1.4	48.5
Puerto Rican (mainland)	144	68	212	.5	55	30	85	.5	40.1
Subtotal	2,136	1,187	3,323	7.9	841	472	1,313	8.3	39.5
Other U.S. minorities									
American Oriental	886	333	1,219	2.9	312	114	426	2.7	34.9
Puerto Rican (Commonwealth)*	184	89	273	.6	58	20	78	.5	28.6
Cuban	194	51	245	.6	64	18	82	.5	33.5
Other	893	327	1,220	2.9	191	88	279	1.8	22.9
No Response	1,681	529	2,210	5.2	403	155	558	3.5	25.2
TOTAL	31,911	10,244	42,155	100.0	11,852	3,922	15,774	100.0	37.4

* The total number of applicants giving the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico as their place of residence was 462, of which 145 were accepted (see Table 7). Data in Table 11 include only those choosing "Puerto Rican (Commonwealth)" as a self-descriptor on the AMCAS application form or the MCAT questionnaire.

land) accounted for 7.9 percent of the total pool. This number represented a growth of 274, or 9.0 percent, over 1975–76 (Table 12). While this increase was shared by all but American Indians, the largest gain (235) occurred for black Americans. As observed in last year's study, the decline in the number of underrepresented minority applicants for 1975–76 was due to a decrease in the number of blacks applying to medical school. Figure 3 and Table 13 reveal that this decrease and the increase in the number of black applicants in the 1976–77 pool were paralleled by similar fluctuations in the number of blacks enrolling in college freshmen classes from 1970 through 1972 (147,176 for 1970, 102,952 for 1971, and 135,504 for 1972).

Although the actual number of underrepresented minority applicants to medical school increased by 274, the number accepted was only 5 more than for the previous year. As shown in Table 12, the acceptance rate for these minority applicants, while remaining slightly above the 37.4 percent for all 1976–77 applicants, was lower than for 1975–76, declining from 42.9 percent to 39.5 percent. A significant factor contributing to this fall in rate of acceptance may be the growing problem of financial aid, which has been relatively more serious for these students since they are more frequently from economically disadvantaged backgrounds. An applicant's ability to finance his medical education has at some schools necessarily become an important consideration in the selection process. Also contributing to the lower acceptance success for minority applicants to the 1976–77 first-year class may be the impact of reverse discrimination suits. The threat of such litigation may be causing some schools to curtail their efforts in the recruitment and admission of minority students. (The U.S. Supreme Court is expected to rule on the case of Bakke versus the State of California in the spring of 1978.)

Returning to Figure 3, the number of blacks entering college and the number of them interested in careers in medicine have increased in recent years. As shown by the lines plotted for these and the line for black applicants to medical school four years later (given in Figure 3 for the five most recent applicant pools), these freshman college enrollment statistics have a certain validity as predictors of the general trend for future black applicant pools. Accordingly, the decrease in blacks entering college from 1972 to 1974 and a slight decline in the number expressing an interest in medicine would not forecast any substantial increase in the number of blacks applying to medical school for 1977 and 1978. It should be stressed, however, that a number of other factors will influence this trend—including the availability of financial aid and the Supreme Court ruling mentioned previously.

5. Size of Hometown

In Table 14, data are presented for the first time on size of hometown of applicants and acceptees to U.S. medical schools. (These figures summarize responses to the question "Where did you spend the major portion of your pre-college years?") Approximately 41 percent of respondents in the 1976–77 applicant pool indicated hometowns with populations of 50,000 or less (including farms). Of the 16,421 applicants in this group, 6,033 were accepted, which was an acceptance rate of 37 percent—slightly below the 40 percent acceptance rate for those from areas with populations greater than 50,000. As indicated by the acceptance rates in Table 14, the chances of gaining admis-

Table 12
Minority* Applicants to U.S. Medical Schools, 1974–75 Through 1976–77

First-Year Class	Total Applicants	Minority Applicants		Minority Acceptees		
		Number	Percent of All Applicants	Number	Percent of All Acceptees	Percent of Minority Applicants Accepted
1974–75	42,624	3,174	7.4	1,406	9.3	44.3
1975–76	42,303	3,049	7.2	1,308	8.5	42.9
1976–77	42,155	3,323	7.9	1,313	8.3	39.5

* Includes only minorities that traditionally have been underrepresented in Medicine (black American, American Indian, Mexican American and mainland Puerto Rican).

Table 13

Total Number of Blacks Entering Undergraduate College from 1968 Through 1976, the Estimated Number Interested in Medicine, and the Number Applying to Medical School Four Years Later

Academic Year (1)	No. Black Freshmen (2)	Percent of All Freshmen Interested in Medicine (3)	Estimated No. of Blacks Interested in Medicine* (4)	No. Black Applicants to Medical School Four Years Later	
				Medical School First-Year Class (5)	No. Blacks Applying (6)
1968–69	85,430	3.7	3,161	1972–73	2,168
1969–70	98,270	3.4	3,341	1973–74	2,227
1970–71	147,176	3.9	5,740	1974–75	2,423
1971–72	102,952	4.4	4,530	1975–76	2,288
1972–73	135,504	5.5	7,453	1976–77	2,523
1973–74	128,619	5.9	7,588		
1974–75	123,812	5.3	6,562		
1975–76	158,445	5.1	8,081		
1976–77	149,678	4.8	7,185		

SOURCES: Data on undergraduate college freshmen were derived from percentages appearing in the American Council on Education's annual issues of *The American Freshman: National Norms.* The numbers of black applicants to medical school were taken from *Medical School Applicants: Supplementary Tables,* published annually since 1972–73 as part of the AAMC's *DSS Report* series.

* Assumes that for the total number of black freshmen given in column 2, the percentage interested in medicine is the same as that for all freshmen given in column 3.

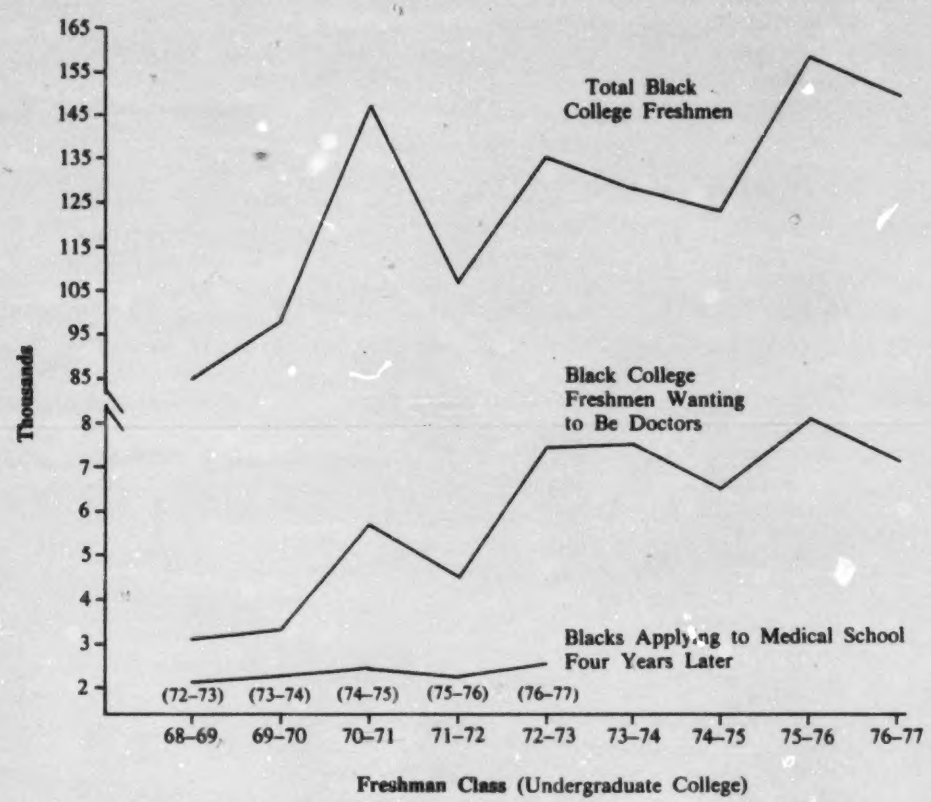

Figure 3

Total Number of Blacks Entering Undergraduate College from 1968 Through 1976, the Estimated Number Interested in Medicine, and the Number Applying to Medical School Four Years Later

Table 14
Size of Hometown of Applicants and Acceptees to U.S. Medical Schools, 1976–77 First-Year Class

Size of Hometown	Applicants		Acceptees		Percent of Applicants Accepted
	Number	Percent of All Applicants	Number	Percent of All Acceptees	
On a farm	1,572	3.7	628	4.0	39.9
Small town (less than 2,500)	3,173	7.5	1,134	7.2	35.7
Small city (2,500 to 50,000)	11,676	27.7	4,271	27.1	36.6
Moderate-sized city (50,000 to 500,000)	9,300	22.1	3,568	22.6	38.4
Large city (500,000 or more)	7,479	17.7	2,854	18.1	38.2
Suburb of a large city	6,793	16.1	2,936	18.6	43.2
No Response	2,162	5.1	383	2.4	17.7
Total	42,155	100.0	15,774	100.0	37.4

sion increased slightly with each interval increase of population, from 35.7 percent for small town to 38.2 percent for large city. The highest acceptance rate (43 percent) was experienced by that 16 percent of the applicant pool having spent the major portion of their pre-college years in a suburb of a large city. This was followed by an acceptance rate of 40 for those applicants from farms. (For further information on size of hometown, see "Academic Background of Applicants" and "Career Plans of Applicants.")

6. Marital Status

Of the 40,124 applicants in the 1976–77 pool responding to the MCAT questionnaire item on marital status, 15 percent were married; 2 percent were either widowed, separated, or divorced; and 83 percent had never been married. Of this group, applicants from underrepresented minorities were slightly more likely to be married (21 percent) than were white/Caucasians (15 percent). Additional analysis revealed an inverse relationship between size of hometown and the relative number of applicants who were married. The proportion who were married decreased from 24 percent for those coming from farms to 13 percent for those from large cities (and 10 percent for those from suburbs of large cities).

For the total group, the rate of acceptance was highest for students who were never married (41 percent) and lowest for married applicants (28 percent). It is interesting to note that acceptance rates for men and women applicants who had never been married differed by only .3 percentage points (40.6 percent for men and 40.3 percent for women), indicating that the greater difference in acceptance rates for men and women at the national level (1.2 percentage points) reflects a higher acceptance success for women than men in the other marital status groups.

7. Citizenship

The number of foreign citizens enrolling in the first-year classes of U.S. medical schools has remained rather stable in recent years. As reported in past applicant studies, these have ranged from 200 to 250 annual first-year students since 1970–71. Appearing in Table 15, for the first time in the study series, are medical school applicant and acceptee data for foreign citizens. Citizenship information by country was collected only for those 37,598 applicants who participated in the American Medical College Application Service (AMCAS)—89 percent of the total 1976–77 applicant pool. Table 14 includes these data and the estimates for the total applicant pool that were extrapolated from them—the latter given in parentheses. As shown, an estimated 1,414 foreign citizens sought admission to U.S. medical schools for 1976–77—approximately 3 percent of the pool. (The extrapolation of the AMCAS figures to the total pool is made on the assumption that the relative distribution by "geographic area of citizenship" for non-AMCAS applicants would not differ from that for applicants utilizing AMCAS.)

The 1,262 AMCAS foreign applicants, which are distributed in Table 15 by major world geographic areas, included citizens of 109 countries. Of these countries, the largest contributor was Nigeria with 141 applicants, followed by Hong Kong (136), Canada (132), Cuba and the United Kingdom (60 each), India (57), and the Republic of China (53). Approxi-

mately 51 percent of all foreign applicants were citizens of one of these seven countries. Thirty-three of the 109 countries contributed only one applicant each.

Applicants from the Americas, compared with those from the other world geographic areas, accounted for the largest portion of applicants (34 percent) and also, as a group, had the best chance of gaining admission (an acceptance rate of 25 percent). The acceptance rate for the aggregate of foreign nationals was considerably below that for the total pool—20 percent and 37 percent, respectively.

C. Academic Background of Applicants

1. Undergraduate College Major

Over the past five years, there have been small but steady annual increases in the proportion of applicants having majored in either biology, chemistry, or zoology—from 50 percent in 1972–73 to 57 percent for 1976–77. Majors in psychology, premedicine, and biochemistry followed in popularity among 1976–77 applicants, each being reported by more than a thousand applicants (Table 16). Of those 1976–77 applicants indicating an undergraduate college major, almost three-fourths (74 percent) had majored in one of these six science fields. While the above-mentioned growth is partially a reflection of the general increase in popularity of the sciences among all undergraduate college students, the predominance of science-related backgrounds among medical school aspirants is also evidence of the conviction among many that a science major increases one's chances for being admitted.

As observed in previous applicant studies, however, a heavy concentration in the sciences during the undergraduate college years is not necessarily associated with admission to medical school. Students with a wide variety of majors were accepted to the 1976–77 first-year class. As indicated in Table 16 by the percent of applicants accepted with a given major, the chances of gaining admission did not seem to be strongly related to the major field of undergraduate study. While those majoring in biomedical engineering had the highest rate of acceptance (57 percent), applicants with degrees in interdisciplinary programs and religion ranked second and third with acceptance rates of 51 percent and 50 percent, respectively. Those applicants from other professional fields continued to

Table 15
Number of Foreign Citizens Among Applicants and Acceptees to U.S. Medical Schools by Geographic Origin, 1976–77 First-Year Class

Geographic Area	Applicants		Acceptees		
	Number*	Percent of Foreign Applicants	Number*	Percent of Foreign Acceptees	Percent of AMCAS Applicants Accepted
Africa	217 (243)	17.2	40 (43)	15.6	18.4
Americas					
Canada	132 (148)	10.5	23 (25)	9.0	17.4
Caribbean†	192 (215)	15.2	49 (53)	19.1	25.5
Central America	44 (49)	3.5	18 (20)	7.0	40.9
South America	59 (66)	4.7	15 (17)	5.9	25.4
Asia	388 (435)	30.7	72 (78)	28.1	18.6
Europe	136 (153)	10.8	28 (31)	10.9	20.6
Middle East	84 (94)	6.7	10 (11)	3.9	11.9
Oceania	10 (11)	0.8	1 (1)	0.4	10.0
Total	1,262(1,414)	100.0	256(279)	100.0	20.3

* Numbers in the left column are limited to the 89.2 percent of the 1976–77 applicant pool who utilized the American Medical College Application Service (AMCAS). Numbers in parentheses are estimates for the total applicant pool and are based on the assumption that non-AMCAS and AMCAS applicants are similarly distributed by geographic area.
† Includes Caribbean exclusive of Puerto Rico.

Table 16
Undergraduate College Majors of Applicants and Acceptees, 1976–77 First-Year Class

Undergraduate Major	Applicants		Acceptees	
	No.	Percent of All Applicants	No.	Percent of Applicants Accepted
Biology	15,909	37.7	5,614	35.3
Chemistry	4,943	11.7	2,172	43.9
Zoology	3,134	7.4	1,070	34.1
Psychology	2,354	5.6	772	32.8
Premedicine	2,353	5.6	860	36.5
Biochemistry	1,406	3.3	701	49.9
Microbiology	971	2.3	317	32.6
Chemistry and Biology	737	1.7	314	42.6
Mathematics	611	1.4	239	39.1
Pharmacy	501	1.2	99	19.8
English	448	1.1	167	37.2
Natural Sciences	448	1.1	172	38.4
Physics	390	.9	161	41.2
Medical Technology	375	.9	74	19.7
History	358	.8	156	43.6
Science (Other Biological)	315	.7	123	39.0
Physiology	293	.7	96	32.8
Foreign Language	289	.7	111	38.4
Psychobiology	284	.7	116	40.8
Electrical Engineering	243	.6	82	33.7
Pre-Professional	243	.6	111	45.7
Biomedical Engineering	226	.5	128	56.6
Anthropology	222	.5	82	36.9
Economics	215	.5	97	45.1
Nursing	215	.5	63	29.3
Sociology	206	.5	73	35.4
Political Science	200	.5	69	34.5
Chemical Engineering	189	.4	79	41.8
Philosophy	188	.4	73	38.8
Interdisciplinary	175	.4	90	51.4
Engineering (Unspecified)	167	.4	54	32.3
Education	143	.3	42	29.4
General Studies	136	.3	48	35.3
No Major	135	.3	62	45.9
Business	111	.3	28	25.2
Religion	106	.3	53	50.0
Other Known Majors	1,604	3.8	606	37.8
Not Specified	1,312	3.1	600	45.7
Total	42,155	100.0	15,774	37.4

have the least chance of being admitted: education (29 percent), nursing (29 percent), pharmacy (20 percent), and medical technology (20 percent).*

* Compared with the overall acceptance rate of 37.4 percent, the difference in acceptance rate for each of these fields was statistically significant at the .05 level.

2. Highest Degree

Applicants applying through AMCAS for places in the 1976–77 first-year class were asked to indicate degrees granted or expected. As stated previously, AMCAS applicants accounted for 89 percent of all 1976–77 applicants, and it is assumed that their responses are representative of the entire applicant pool. The highest degrees held by applicants (or

expected—for most, by the time they would be entering medical school) were distributed as follows (total N = 37,598): bachelor's, 84.7 percent; master's, 11.6 percent; doctor's, 3.0 percent; and no degree expected, .7 percent. Further subdivision of the bachelor's-level group revealed that applicants with B.S.'s accounted for 48.2 percent of the pool; those with B.A.'s, 35.5 percent.

Calculated by the applicant's degree level, the chances of getting admitted to medical school varied significantly.* Acceptance percentages went from a low of 16 percent for applicants at the doctoral level (within this group, Ph.D.'s had an acceptance rate of 31 percent) and 27 percent for the master's level to a high of 41 percent for applicants with bachelor's degrees. Among applicants with bachelor's degrees, those with B.A.'s experienced an acceptance rate of 44 percent, compared with a 39 percent rate of acceptance for those with B.S.'s. (The difference is significant at the .05 level.) This higher acceptance rate for applicants with B.A.'s may be due, in part, to their having a significantly higher mean score on the MCAT Science subtest—588 for applicants with B.A.'s and 574 for those with B.S.'s. (The 14-point difference is significant at the .0002 level.)

3. Academic Ability

Related to the increased competition in recent years for first-year places in U.S. medical schools and the importance of academic achievement as a selection criterion, applicants each year have presented admissions committees with increasingly outstanding academic credentials. (For undergraduate GPAs, this trend may reflect a certain amount of grade inflation.) As discussed in the following section, this trend continued for the 1976–77 competition. In interpreting these data, however, it is important to remember that they deal with only two of the selection factors that are considered by medical school admission committees—GPAs and MCAT scores. While these measures of academic achievement are generally considered as important criteria, applicants are also considered along other dimensions. Psychological factors such as the emotional stability, motivation, and maturity of applicants—often assessed through personal interviews—receive careful consideration at many schools. Depending on the institution, varying degrees of emphasis are also put on such factors as the applicant's career plans and place of residence.

As indicators of overall academic ability, the two measures discussed in this section each have their strengths and weaknesses. An applicant's GPA measures his achievement over a number of years and is, in this respect, a more representative index than scores from a one-day testing. However, the fact that grading standards and the stringency of coursework vary greatly among undergraduate institutions places limitations on the GPA as an evaluative measure. The MCAT, on the other hand, while possessing the limitations inherent in such one-time examinations, does provide a standardized measure at the national level by which to evaluate applicants.

The overall undergraduate college mean GPA for applicants to the 1976–77 first-year class was 3.27. This compared with a 3.24 for the previous year's pool and, as shown in Figure 4, followed the upward trend in mean GPAs over the past few years. Due to the demanding nature of courses in biology, chemistry, physics, and mathematics (BCPM), mean GPAs for these courses (during the four years shown in

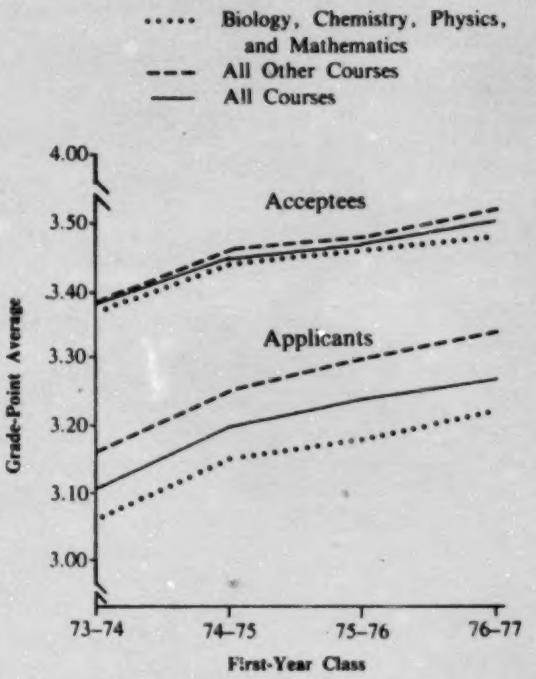

Figure 4
Mean Undergraduate Grade-Point Average (GPA) of Accepted and Total Applicants, 1973–74 Through 1976–77

* The acceptance rates for bachelor's level, doctoral level, and master's level, when compared with the overall acceptance rate of 37.4, were each statistically different at the .05 significance level (see Figure 1).

Table 17
Mean Undergraduate Grade-Point Averages (GPA) of Accepted, Nonaccepted, and Total Applicants, 1973–74 Through 1976–77

Number First-Year Class	Percentage BCPM* GPA	AO† GPA	Total GPA	with GPAs	of Total Applicants	Total Applicants
		ACCEPTED APPLICANTS				
1973–74	3.37	3.38	3.38	12,503	87.2	14,335
1974–75	3.44	3.46	3.45	13,609	90.3	15,066
1975–76	3.46	3.48	3.47	14,059	91.5	15,365
1976–77	3.48	3.52	3.50	14,476	91.8	15,774
		NONACCEPTED APPLICANTS§				
1973–74	2.87	3.02	2.95	20,662	78.9	26,171
1974–75	2.98	3.12	3.05	23,193	84.2	27,558
1975–76	3.02	3.19	3.10	23,342	86.7	26,938
1976–77	3.05	3.23	3.13	22,763	86.3	26,381
		TOTAL APPLICANTS				
1973–74	3.06	3.16	3.11	33,165	81.9	40,506
1974–75	3.15	3.25	3.20	36,802	86.3	42,624
1975–76	3.18	3.30	3.24	37,401	88.4	42,303
1976–77	3.22	3.34	3.27	37,239	88.3	42.155

* Biology, chemistry, physics, and mathematics courses.
† All other courses.
§Includes those who withdrew before any action was taken on their applications.

Figure 4) were below the means for all other (AO) courses, both among applicants and acceptees. The closeness of the AO and BCPM lines plotted for accepted applicants, when compared with those for the total pool, indicate that as a group they present academic records that reflect not only a higher but a more uniform achievement across subject areas. As pointed out in the discussion of undergraduate majors, however, the vast majority of both applicants and acceptees in recent years have concentrated their undergraduate studies in the sciences. The BCPM mean GPAs given in Figure 4 therefore reflect their major efforts, while the AO means summarize achievement that, for many, is limited to basic courses at the freshman and sophomore level. (The data used to construct Figure 4 are given in Table 17.)

Over the past five years, trends for the MCAT subtests have reflected this increased emphasis in the science-related fields. Figure 5 and the accompanying Table 18 present mean scores on each of the four subtests of the MCAT for the five most recent medical school applicant pools. Mean scores for the Verbal Ability subtest have remained fairly stable during this time, while General Information scores have declined since 1973–74. For 1976–77, the mean General Information score for accepted applicants was the lowest recorded during the last five years. Contrasted with these trends, scores have risen steadily for Quantitative Ability (since 1973–74) and Science.

When the 1976–77 applicant pool is compared with the 1975–76 pool, the greatest changes in mean scores for the four subtests of the MCAT occurred for Quantitative Ability (an increase of 8 points) and Science (an increase of 6 points). For acceptees, gains on these two subtests were 13 points and 3 points, respectively. The difference in mean scores between accepted and nonaccepted applicants, as in past years, was greatest for the Science subtest—72 points. This compares with a 76-point differential for 1975–76 (Table 18).

A comparison of the MCAT subtest scores of first-time and repeat applicants for 1976–77 (Table 19) shows that repeaters, as a group, had higher mean scores on Verbal Ability and General Information, while first-timers achieved higher scores on Quantitative Ability and Science. Among nonaccepted applicants, however, repeat applicants had the higher

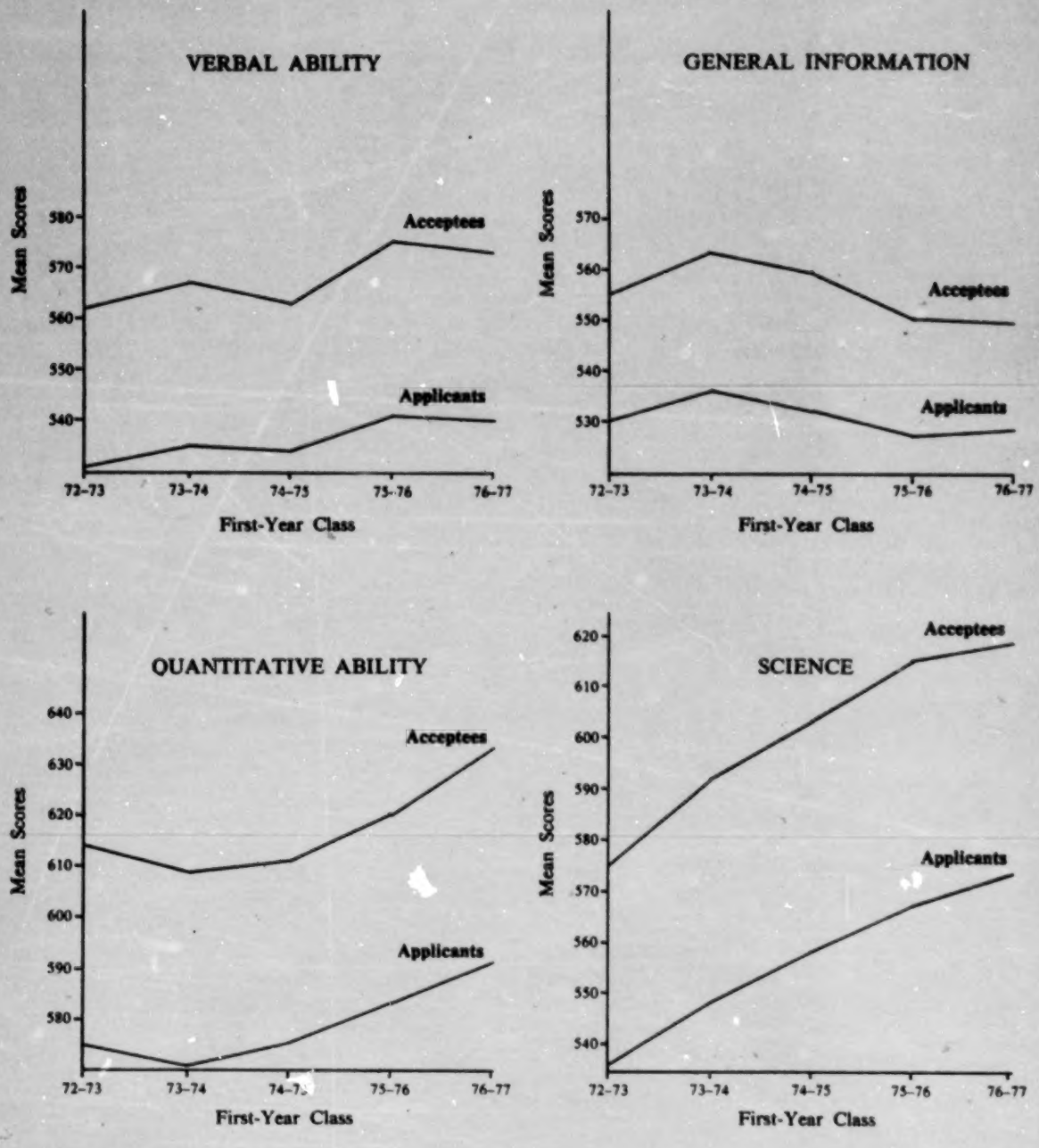

Figure 5
Mean MCAT Subtest Scores of Applicants and Acceptees to U.S. Medical School First-Year Classes 1972–73 Through 1976–77

Table 13
Mean MCAT Scores of Accepted, Nonaccepted, and Total Applicants, 1972–73 Through 1976–77

First-Year Class	Mean MCAT Scores: Verbal Ability	Quantitative Ability	General Information	Science	Number Taking MCAT	Percentage of Total Applicants	Total Applicants
			ACCEPTED APPLICANTS				
1972–73	562	614	555	575	13,633	99.1	13,757
1973–74	567	609	563	592	14,062	98.1	14,335
1974–75	563	611	559	603	14,943	99.2	15,066
1975–76	575	620	550	615	15,192	98.9	15,365
1976–77	573	633	549	618	15,584	98.8	15,774
			NONACCEPTED APPLICANTS*				
1972–73	512	551	514	510	21,080	94.2	22,378
1973–74	518	550	521	524	25,217	96.4	26,171
1974–75	518	555	518	532	26,921	97.7	27,558
1975–76	522	562	513	539	26,337	97.8	26,938
1976–77	521	566	515	546	25,698	97.4	26,381
			TOTAL APPLICANTS				
1972–73	531	575	530	536	34,713	96.1	36,135
1973–74	535	571	536	548	39,279	97.0	40,506
1974–75	534	575	532	558	41,864	98.2	42,624
1975–76	541	583	527	567	41,529	98.2	42,303
1976–77	540	591	528	573	41,282	97.9	42,155

* Includes those who withdrew before any action was taken on their applications.

means on all four MCAT subtests. This is partially due to the absence in the repeater group of low scoring applicants who were discouraged from reapplying (the first-time group no doubt includes such applicants) but may also reflect the fact that acceptance decisions are made on a much broader basis than test scores alone, particularly when these scores are above a minimal level.

Comparative MCAT subtest scores for men and women applicants in the 1976–77 pool (Table 20) show that women continued to achieve slightly higher scores on Verbal Ability (553 versus 536) and General Information (531 versus 527), although for both genders the Verbal Ability means were one point lower than the previous year's. Men continued to achieve higher scores on Quantitative Ability (598 versus 569) and Science (581 versus 549). The BCPM mean GPA for both genders was 3.22. However, the 3.41 AO mean GPA for women applicants was slightly higher than the AO mean for men (3.32), resulting in a slightly higher total GPA for women—3.30 for women and 3.26 for men.*

Mean MCAT subtest scores computed by racial/ethnic category for 1976–77 applicants generally agree with reports on previous applicant pools. As in past years, white/Caucasians and Oriental/Asian-Americans achieved the highest mean scores on all four subtests and presented the highest mean GPAs (Table 21). When compared with 1975–76 MCAT scores, the most substantial increases for 1976–77 occurred for Oriental/Asian-Americans. The scores given in Table 21 for this group represented increases of 10 points on Verbal Ability, 16 points on Quantitative Ability, 12 points on General

* For all four MCAT subtests and for both AO and Total GPAs, the t-ratios calculated for the difference in means for men and women indicate significance at the .01 level: Verbal Ability (t = 15.69), Quantitative Ability (t = 30.18), General Information (t = 4.41), Science (t = 28.46), AO GPA (t = 16.89), and Total GPA (t = 5.71).

Information, and 10 points on Science. Except for the 10-point gain in Science, which was overshadowed by a 24-point increase for mainland Puerto Ricans, these were the largest increases experienced among the racial/ethnic groups listed in Table 21.

Academic achievement of applicants by size of hometown, appearing in Table 22, shows that for each of the MCAT subtests, mean scores generally increase with increases in hometown population. Except for a slight decline for residents of moderate-sized cities, mean Science scores, for example, rise steadily from 550 for "On a farm" to a high of 572 for large cities (and up to 602 for suburbs of large cities). Particularly notable was the outstanding achievement for applicants from the suburbs, who, as shown in Table 22, achieved considerably higher scores on all four MCAT subtests and the highest GPA.

The above discussions have dealt with mean GPAs and MCAT scores independently. However, medical school admissions committees, in judging an applicant's academic ability, are likely to consider both measures in combination. For the total 1976–77 applicant pool, Figure 6 presents a distribution of both applicants and acceptees by the various combinations of GPAs and MCAT Science scores. In each cell, the number of acceptees appears as the numerator and the

Table 19
Comparative Acceptance Data and MCAT Scores for First-Time and Repeat Applicants, 1976–77 First-Year Class

Category	Number of Individuals		Mean MCAT Scores*			
	Total	with MCAT	VA	QA	Gen	Sci
First-Time Applicants						
Accepted	11,492	11,314	574	639	551	622
Not Accepted	16,768	16,136	514	564	512	542
Total	28,260	27,450	539	595	528	575
Percent Accepted	*40.7%*	*41.2%*				
Repeat Applicants†						
Accepted	4,282	4,270	569	617	544	607
Not Accepted	9,613	9,562	532	569	522	552
Total	13,895	13,832	544	584	529	569
Percent Accepted	*30.8%*	*30.9%*				

* VA = Verbal Ability, QA = Quantitative Ability, Gen = General Information, and Sci = Science
† Repeat applicants include those who also applied for either the 1974–75 or the 1975–76 first-year class.

Table 20
Mean Scores on the MCAT Subtests for Men and Women Applicants to First-Year Classes, 1972–73 Through 1976–77

First-year Class	Verbal Ability		Quantitative Ability		General Information		Science		No. of Examinees	
	Men	Women	Men	Women	Men	Women	Men	Women	Men	Women
1972–73	527	555	580	552	528	537	539	516	29,475	5,238
1973–74	530	559	576	549	534	544	553	528	32,364	6,915
1974–75	529	552	579	557	531	539	563	534	33,356	8,508
1975–76*	537	554	589	564	527	528	573	544	32,065	9,390
1976–77	536	553	598	569	527	531	581	549	31,304	9,978

* Excludes 213 applicants for whom gender information was unavailable.

number of applicants as the denominator. The acceptance percentage for applicants with that particular GPA/MCAT Science score combination is given in parentheses. As expected, the acceptance rate for applicants with both high grades and high MCAT Science scores was significantly higher than the 37.4 percent for the entire pool. Of those 99 applicants with 4.0 GPAs and MCAT Science scores in the 700s, for example, 90 percent were accepted. However, 10 of these 99 academically outstanding applicants were not accepted, while 30 applicants were accepted from the group of 698 with B- and C+ averages and MCAT Science scores in the 300s. For these 40 students, other factors—such as those mentioned in the beginning of this section—obviously played an important role in the selection committee's decisions.

Table 21
MCAT Scores and Undergraduate College Grades (GPA) of Applicants by Self-Description, 1976–77 First-Year Class*

Self-Description	Applicant Pool		Mean MCAT Scores†				Grade Point Average
	No.	Percent	VA	QA	Gen	Sci	
Black/Afro-American	2,523	6.0	439	474	445	450	2.72
American Indian	128	.3	503	533	499	518	2.95
White/Caucasian	33,665	79.9	552	603	538	587	3.32
Mexican-American or Chicano	460	1.1	483	527	484	506	2.96
Oriental/Asian-American	1,219	2.9	530	635	510	585	3.34
Puerto Rican (Mainland)	212	.5	475	508	478	489	2.94
Puerto Rican (Commonwealth)§	273	.6	441	476	444	441	3.26
Cuban	245	.6	492	538	499	529	3.16
Other	1,220	2.9	503	567	503	540	3.18
No Response	2,210	5.2	533	571	525	554	3.27
Total	42,155	100.0	540	591	528	573	3.27

* Number with MCAT scores – 41,282; number with known GPAs – 37,239.
† VA = Verbal Ability, QA = Quantitative Ability, Gen = General Information, and Sci = Science.
§ The total number of applicants giving the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico as their place of residence was 462, of whom 145 were accepted (see Table 7). Data in Table 21 include only those choosing "Puerto Rican (Commonwealth)" as a self-descriptor on the AMCAS application form or the MCAT questionnaire.

Table 22
MCAT Scores and Undergraduate College Grades (GPA) of Applicants by Size of Hometown, 1976–77 First-Year Class*

Size of Hometown	Applicant Pool		Mean MCAT Scores†				Grade Point Average
	No.	Percent	VA	QA	Gen	Sci	
On a farm	1,572	3.7	514	566	505	550	3.31
Small town (less than 2,500)	3,173	7.5	522	557	514	556	3.27
Small city (2,500 to 50,000)	11,676	27.7	537	588	525	571	3.29
Moderate-sized city (50,000 to 500,000)	9,300	22.1	538	586	524	568	3.27
Large city (500,000 or more)	7,479	17.7	543	592	531	572	3.22
Suburb of a large city	6,793	16.1	562	621	546	602	3.34
No Response	2,162	5.1	541	571	538	553	3.00
Total	42,155	100.0	540	591	528	573	3.27

* Number with MCAT scores – 41,282; number with known GPAs – 37,239.
† VA = Verbal Ability, QA = Quantitative Ability, Gen = General Information, and Sci = Science.

Overall GPA (and Letter Grade)	MCAT Science Subtest Scores							
	No Score	200s	300s	400s	500s	600s	700s	Total
4.00 (A)	3 / 4 (75)	0 / 0 (0)	0 / 1 (0)	3 / 15 (20)	53 / 71 (75)	184 / 208 (88)	89 / 99 (90)	332 / 398 (83)
3.30–3.99 (A- & B+)	10 / 69 (14)	0 / 7 (0)	19 / 197 (10)	351 / 1,569 (22)	2,833 / 6,418 (44)	6,190 / 9,385 (66)	1,393 / 1,823 (76)	10,796 / 19,468 (55)
3.00–3.29 (B)	6 / 50 (12)	0 / 26 (0)	24 / 248 (10)	165 / 1,314 (12)	735 / 3,591 (20)	939 / 2,963 (32)	157 / 349 (45)	2,026 / 8,541 (24)
2.30–2.99 (B- & C+)	3 / 75 (4)	0 / 68 (0)	30 / 698 (4)	266 / 2,119 (12)	498 / 3,012 (16)	395 / 1,695 (23)	54 / 171 (32)	1,246 / 7,838 (16)
2.00–2.29 (C)	0 / 14 (0)	1 / 26 (4)	4 / 169 (2)	16 / 285 (6)	32 / 215 (15)	16 / 83 (19)	0 / 7 (0)	69 / 799 (9)
0.00–1.99 (below C)	0 / 4 (0)	0 / 5 (0)	1 / 57 (2)	3 / 83 (4)	0 / 36 (0)	3 / 9 (33)	0 / 1 (0)	7 / 195 (4)
Grades Unknown	168 / 653 (26)	2 / 71 (3)	5 / 396 (1)	128 / 1,057 (12)	385 / 1,518 (25)	499 / 1,050 (48)	111 / 171 (65)	1,298 / 4,916 (26)
Total	190 / 869 (22)	3 / 203 (2)	83 / 1,766 (5)	932 / 6,442 (14)	4,536 / 14,861 (30)	8,226 / 15,393 (53)	1,804 / 2,621 (69)	15,774 / 42,155 (37)

Numerator in each cell is the number of acceptees with the indicated grades and MCAT scores; denominator is the number of applicants with these characteristics; figure in parentheses is the percentage of applicants accepted.

Figure 6
Distribution of All Applicants and Acceptees by Undergraduate College Grade-Point Average (GPA) and by Scores on the Science Subtest of the Medical College Admission Test (MCAT), 1976–77 First-Year Class

Overall GPA (and Letter Grade)	MCAT Science Subtest Scores							
	No Score	200s	300s	400s	500s	600s	700s	Total
4.00 (A)	3/3 (100)	0/0 (0)	0/0 (0)	1/4 (25)	24/31 (77)	104/110 (94)	59/63 (94)	191/211 (90)
3.30–3.99 (A- & B+)	4/29 (14)	0/3 (0)	9/77 (12)	187/726 (26)	1,527/3,169 (48)	3,801/5,258 (72)	854/1,019 (84)	6,382/10,281 (62)
3.00–3.29 (B)	4/14 (29)	0/7 (0)	11/105 (10)	78/555 (14)	300/1,437 (21)	356/1,172 (30)	59/111 (53)	808/3,401 (24)
2.30–2.99 (B- & C+)	0/18 (0)	0/23 (0)	12/240 (5)	111/734 (15)	181/1,004 (18)	93/455 (20)	18/37 (49)	415/2,511 (16)
2.00–2.29 (C)	0/5 (0)	0/11 (0)	0/56 (0)	3/91 (3)	12/48 (25)	7/19 (37)	0/1 (0)	22/231 (10)
0.00–1.99 (below C)	0/2 (0)	0/4 (0)	0/19 (0)	1/30 (3)	0/9 (0)	0/1 (0)	0/0 (0)	1/65 (2)
Grades Unknown	14/16 (88)	0/1 (0)	2/4 (50)	3/11 (27)	5/16 (31)	12/18 (67)	1/1 (100)	37/67 (55)
Total	25/87 (29)	0/49 (0)	34/501 (7)	384/2,151 (18)	2,049/5,714 (36)	4,373/7,033 (62)	991/1,232 (80)	7,856/16,767 (47)

Numerator in each cell is the number of acceptees with the indicated grades and MCAT scores; denominator is the number of applicants with these characteristics; figure in parentheses is the percentage of applicants accepted.

Figure 7
Distribution of Senior First-Time Applicants and Acceptees by Undergraduate College Grade-Point Average (GPA) and by Scores on the Science Subtest of the Medical College Admission Test (MCAT), 1976–77 First-Year Class

Figure 6 summarizes acceptance data for the total 42,155 applicants to the 1976–77 first-year class. Approximately one-third of these applicants were reapplying after previously being rejected. Another 27 percent, although applying for the first time, had either received their baccalaureate prior to 1976 or were undergraduate juniors or less. As shown elsewhere in this study (see Table 4), these two groups of applicants, for a number of reasons, were less successful in gaining admittance to medical school.

The remaining 40 percent, most of whom were in the 21–23 age group, graduated from college in 1976 and had applied to enter medical school in the fall of that year. None of these individuals had applied to medical school previously. A GPA/MCAT profile for these "in-phase" applicants is presented in Figure 7. (The first data on in-phase applicants appeared in the 1975–76 study.) As mentioned earlier, the chance of gaining admission was substantially higher for this group than that reported for the entire pool. Whereas only one in three of the latter group have been accepted in recent years, almost one in two of in-phase applicants (47 percent) were accepted to the 1976–77 first-year class. When this comparison is limited to applicants with GPA's of 3.00 or more and with Science MCAT's above 500, 50 percent of all applicants and 57 percent of in-phase candidates were accepted.

D. Socioeconomic Background of Applicants

1. Parental Income

The high positive relationship between the parental income of an applicant and his academic achievement, which emerges from the data for recent medical school applicant pools, reflects not only the limited access to quality education imposed by financial impediments but also the negative effects (on academic achievement) resulting from the part-time employment necessary for many college students from less affluent backgrounds. Due to the importance of academic credentials in the admissions process, this in turn produces a parallel relationship between economic background, the decision to apply to medical school, and the chances of getting accepted to medical school.

Data presented in Table 23 summarize responses to the item on the questionnaire accompanying the MCAT which asks examinees to estimate and indicate their parents' combined gross annual income for the previous year. Of those 42,155 in the 1976–77 applicant pool, 30,164, or 72 percent had taken the MCAT in 1975 and, therefore, gave estimates of parents' gross earnings for 1974. Applicants who took the MCAT in other years—some in 1970 or earlier—are excluded from the present analysis. Similarly,

Table 23
MCAT Scores and Undergraduate College Grades (GPA) of Applicants by Parental Income, 1976–77 First-Year Class*

Parental Income	Applicant Pool		Mean MCAT Scores†					
	Number	Percent	VA	QA	Gen	Sci	Grade Point Average	Percent Accepted
Less than $5,000	1,455	4.8	494	542	489	516	3.10	32.8
$5,000 – 9,999	2,816	9.3	514	562	506	541	3.20	36.7
$10,000 – 11,999	2,491	8.3	526	579	517	558	3.27	39.1
$12,000 – 14,999	3,576	11.9	532	589	522	567	3.32	39.7
$15,000 – 19,999	4,761	15.8	540	599	528	578	3.35	42.9
$20,000 – 24,999	4,748	15.7	547	607	533	584	3.35	44.5
$25,000 – 49,999	6,527	21.6	556	614	541	590	3.34	46.9
$50,000 or more	3,297	10.9	557	608	540	587	3.28	49.2
No Response	493	1.6	558	598	540	575	3.23	38.7
Total§	30,164	100.0	540	595	527	573	3.30	42.9

* Includes only those applicants to the 1976–77 first-year class who took the MCAT in 1975—approximately 72 percent of the entire pool of 42,155. Incomes reported are for 1974.
† VA = Verbal Ability, QA = Quantitative Ability, Gen = General Information, and Sci = Science.
§ The median parental income was $19,700 (rounded to the nearest hundred).

income data for the 1975–76 pool, used in comparisons, are limited to the 73 percent of that pool who took the MCAT in 1974, thereby reporting incomes for 1973. This has been done so that control for inflation (from 1973 to 1974) may be exercised when making comparisons. All references below to the two applicant pools are to these respective subpopulations. (Medians are calculated from frequency distributions similar to that given in Table 23.)

The median parental income for applicants to the 1976–77 first-year class was $19,700, compared with a median of $18,400 for the 1975–76 pool. The $1,300 difference amounted to a 7.1 percent increase over the previous year, which is identical to the rise in the median income for all U.S. families from 1973 to 1974.* (As explained in the previous paragraph, these are the years for which parental incomes were actually reported by applicants.)

The distribution by parental income of the 1975 examinees in the 1976–77 applicant pool is shown in Table 23, along with the mean MCAT scores and GPAs of applicants in each parental income category. Except for the $50,000 or more" category, a positive relationship is apparent between parental income and both the applicants' MCAT scores and GPAs. Mean MCAT Science scores, for example, rise from 516 for the lowest income interval to 590 for applicants with parental incomes of from $25,000 to $49,999. It is not surprising, therefore, that acceptance rates increased with each increment of parental income, ranging from 32.8 percent for applicants with parental incomes of less than $5,000 to 49.2 percent for those with parental incomes of $50,000 or more.

Reflecting this greater acceptance success for students from higher income backgrounds, the median parental income for acceptees ($21,000) was $1,300 greater than the corresponding median for the total applicant pool and $2,300 more than the $18,700 median for nonacceptees. The median parental income reported for those accepted from the 1975–76 pool was $19,700.

The median parental income for women in the 1976–77 applicant pool was slightly lower than that for men—$19,300 and $19,800, respectively.† This $500 difference in medians compares with a similar one of only $200 for the previous year's pool. Among accepted students for 1976–77, the parental income for women was $20,600 and for men, $21,100. These slightly lower medians for women applicants are probably due in part to the fact that underrepresented minority applicants account for a larger portion of women than men. The median computed for the total of these minority applicants was $11,300 for 1976–77, compared with one of $21,000 for white/Caucasians.

Although the findings summarized in this section indicate that the chances of getting into medical school are positively associated with the economic backgrounds of applicants, it is important to note that this association is not unique to medical school admissions but is part of a process operating throughout the education system. While the median income for all U.S. families was $12,900 for 1974, the comparable figure for families of third- and fourth-year college students was $17,900 and for families of medical school applicants, $19,700. A recent AAMC study on this subject concludes that family income levels of those accepted to medical school "are preordained more by the family income levels of those who reach the educational level of the third and fourth year of college and those who apply to medical school than by the selection criteria of the medical school."§

2. Parents' Occupations

Table 24 presents a distribution of applicants to the 1976–77 first-year class by father's occupation. Since the various occupational categories presented here may be defined, to a certain extent, in terms of general income ranges, data for this variable are similar to those for parental incomes. The majority of the applicant pool (58.9 percent, compared with 58.0 percent for the previous year) had fathers who either were in the professions (including physicians) or were owners, managers, and administrators (non-farm). Reflecting these higher socioeconomic backgrounds, applicants

* The median income for all U.S. families increased from $12,051 for 1973 to $12,902 for 1974. These data appear in Table 3 of U.S. Bureau of Census, *Current Population Reports*, Series P-60, No. 103, "Money Income and Poverty Status of Families and Persons in the United States: 1975 and 1974 Revisions (Advance Report)" (U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C., 1976).

† A test for significance conducted on a crosstabulation of 1976–77 applicants by gender and parental income (categorized as "above $19,700" and "less than or equal to $19,700) indicated that the difference in parental income between men and women applicants was significant at the .05 level but not at the .02 level.

§ R. J. Boerner, "Family Income of Medical School Applicants and Acceptees and College Students," *Journal of Medical Education*, 52:948–949, 1977.

in this group presented the highest academic credentials and experienced an acceptance rate of 40 percent, which was significantly higher than the 33 percent acceptance rate for the remainder of the applicant pool.

The distributions of father's occupation for men and women applicants in the 1976–77 pool were highly similar, except for two occupation categories (Table 25). Women were more apt to have fathers in "other professions" (26.6 percent of all women, compared with 21.2 percent of men) and were slightly less likely than men to have fathers who were owners, managers, and administrators (21.7 percent of women versus 25.5 percent of men).

Comparative distributions of father's occupations for racial/ethnic groups reflect the substantial difference in median parental incomes observed in the previous section. As shown in Table 25, approximately 31 percent of all applicants from underrepresented minorities—as compared with 63 percent of white/Caucasian applicants— had fathers who were professionals or owners, managers, and administrators. On the other hand, 34 percent of the fathers of minority applicants were in the craftsman and unskilled laborer categories, as opposed to only 12 percent of whites.

Closely associated with occupation, the level of education completed by the fathers of 1976–77 applicants further confirmed the trend over recent years of higher socioeconomic backgrounds for applicants to medical school. While only 40 percent of applicants to the 1972–73 first-year class had fathers who had completed college (and only 26 percent had graduate or professional training), among fathers of applicants to the 1976–77 medical school freshman class, 51 percent had at least a baccalaureate, and 33 percent had graduate or professional training. (Complete data on the academic ability and acceptance success of 1976–77 applicants by father's education are given in Appendix Table A-5.)

A relationship similar to that observed between academic achievement and father's occupation is also apparent for mother's occupation—that is, applicants with mothers in the professions generally have the highest MCAT scores and experienced a high rate of acceptance. The acceptance rate was 46 percent (155 of 337) for those few applicants whose mothers were physicians and 44 percent (2,197 of 4,993) if their mothers were in other professions. These were followed by an acceptance rate of 39 percent for applicants whose mothers were homemakers. (See Appendix Table A-6 for complete data on academic ability

Table 24
MCAT Scores and Undergraduate College Grades (GPA) of Applicants by Father's Occupation, 1976–77 First-Year Class*

Father's Occupation	Applicant Pool		Mean MCAT Scores†					
	Number	Percent	VA	QA	Gen	Sci	Grade Point Average	Percent Accepted
Physician	4,972	11.8	553	595	537	581	3.23	43.6
Other Health Occupation	1,859	4.4	541	591	531	575	3.28	39.2
Other Profession	9,456	22.4	555	606	539	586	3.32	41.3
Owner, Manager, Administrator (Non-Farm)	10,359	24.6	547	603	534	583	3.31	37.8
Clerical or Sales Worker	2,221	5.3	539	591	530	572	3.28	33.6
Craftsman, Skilled Worker	3,954	9.4	525	575	514	561	3.24	32.0
Unskilled Workers, Laborers Private Household Worker (Non-Farm)	1,822	4.3	497	546	492	525	3.11	35.1
Farmer, Farm Worker	1,191	2.8	504	560	498	541	3.28	37.5
Homemaker	91	0.2	511	550	506	523	3.06	15.4
Other	4,849	11.5	525	575	516	557	3.24	34.3
No Response	1,381	3.3	536	566	528	548	3.02	20.8
Total	42,155	100.0	540	591	528	573	3.27	37.4

* Number with MCAT scores – 41,282; number with known GPAs – 37,239.
† VA = Verbal Ability, QA = Quantitative Ability, Gen = General Information, and Sci = Science.

Table 25
Comparative Distributions of Father's Occupation for Men and Women Applicants and for White/Caucasian and Underrepresented Minority Applicants to the 1976–77 First-Year Class

Father's Occupation	All Applicants	Men	Women	White/ Caucasian	Under-represented Minorities*
Physician	11.8	12.1	10.9	12.7	5.8
Other Health Occupation	4.4	4.7	3.6	4.5	4.2
Other Profession	22.4	21.2	26.4	23.6	14.7
Owner, Manager, Administrator (Non-Farm)	24.6	25.5	21.7	26.6	10.3
Clerical or Sales Worker	5.3	5.6	4.3	5.4	4.5
Craftsman, Skilled Worker	9.4	9.2	9.9	9.2	14.9
Unskilled Workers, Laborers Private Household Worker (Non-Farm)	4.3	4.1	4.9	2.9	18.9
Farmer, Farm Worker	2.8	2.8	2.9	2.8	3.9
Homemaker	.2	.2	.2	.2	.4
Other	11.5	11.5	11.5	10.7	18.6
No Response	3.3	3.2	3.5	1.4	3.8
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
	(N=42,155)	*(N=31,911)*	*(N=10,244)*	*(N=33,665)*	*(N=3,323)*

* Includes black Americans, American Indians, Mexican Americans, and mainland Puerto Ricans.

and acceptance success by mother's occupation.) However, women applicants were less likely than men to have mothers who were homemakers—44 percent of women and 49 percent of men. The difference in the proportion of applicants giving their mother's occupation as homemaker was even more pronounced for racial/ethnic groups—52 percent for white/Caucasians and only 33 percent for applicants from underrepresented minorities.

E. Career Plans of Applicants

The data appearing in this section, and in the accompanying discussion, describe the types of careers envisioned by those seeking admission to the 1976–77 medical school freshman class. It should be stressed that these data reflect tentative plans rather than actual career choices, although they do provide an index—when compared with similar data for previous applicant pools—of general trends among applicants regarding their interest in the major medical career options. For those accepted, these career plans, expressed by the majority of applicants a year before they even filed an application, are subject to change during the medical school years. However, they do have some validity as predictors of the type of practice the individual will eventually choose. A study recently completed by the AAMC* found, for example, that, among 1976 graduates from medical school, 70 percent of those who, as applicants, had stated plans for primary care practice (rather than a referral practice) entered first-year residencies in a primary care field at graduation.

1. General Career Activity Plans

The distribution of 1976–77 applicants by general career activity plans, given in Table 26, summarizes responses to the question regarding the type of activity "to which you plan to devote the majority of your medical career." Although differences between this distribution and that for the previous year were minor, the slight increase in the proportion expressing a

* J. M. Cuca, *Career Choices of the 1976 Graduates of U.S. Medical Schools* (Washington, D.C.: Association of American Medical Colleges, 1977).

preference for general/primary care practice*—from 41.1 percent for 1975–76 to 42.7 percent for 1976–77—continued the trend for recent applicant pools. (The proportion of applicants interested in this type career was only 27 percent for 1973–74 but rose to 38 percent for the 1974–75 pool.) On the other hand, the proportion of applicants preferring straight specialty practices continued to fall—from 24.9 percent for 1975–76 to 23.7 percent for 1976–77.

As with the previous year's applicants, those who were undecided about this aspect of their career achieved the highest mean scores on each of the MCAT subtests and the highest mean GPA. Among applicants expressing a preference, those preferring research and/or teaching achieved the highest mean MCAT scores on the Quantitative Ability and Science subtests, while those planning to combine these activities with specialty practice presented the highest scores on Verbal Ability and General Information and the highest mean GPA. (Additional data on applicants by general career activity plans are given in Appendix Table A-7.)

* This category was changed from "General Practice" to "General/Primary Care Practice" beginning with the 1976 MCAT questionnaire. The latter term has been employed throughout this study to avoid confusion with the now obsolete concept of "general practitioner." It may be assumed that applicants indicating this option as their "major career activity" are anticipating careers in "first-contact" specialties such as family practice, general internal medicine, and general pediatrics.

2. Specialization Plans

The specialty preferences of applicants to the 1976–77 first-year class (Table 27) continued to show a growth in the relative number interested in family practice, the 30 percent for 1976–77 comparing with 28 percent for 1975–76. Following in popularity were surgery or surgical subspecialty (13 percent), pediatrics (7 percent), and internal medicine (6 percent). When preferences for the primary care specialties are combined (i.e., family practice, internal medicine, and pediatrics), they accounted for 44 percent of all applicants. Eliminating "No Responses" and "Undecideds," these three specialties were preferred by 52 percent of applicants. If "do not plan to specialize" is interpreted to mean careers as first-contact physicians and is therefore included with the primary care specialties, 48 percent of all applicants and 57 percent of those having decided were planning primary care careers.

Of those indicating a specialty, applicants attracted to basic medical science, as a group, scored highest on the Quantitative Ability and Science subtests of the MCAT and presented the highest mean GPA. Applicants planning careers in psychiatry had the highest scores on Verbal Ability and General Information. Those preferring obstetrics/gynecology had the least outstanding academic credentials. (For additional data on specialization plans and related academic ability, see Appendix Table A-8.)

Separate distributions of specialty plans for men

Table 26
MCAT Scores and Undergraduate College Grades (GPA) of Applicants by General Career Activity Plans, 1976–77 First-Year Class*

General Career Activity Plans	Applicant Pool		Mean MCAT Scores†				Grade Point Average
	No.	Percent	VA	QA	Gen	Sci	
General/Primary Care Practice	17,997	42.7	535	582	525	568	3.24
Specialty Practice	9,980	23.7	532	584	521	560	3.27
Research and/or Teaching	1,442	3.4	543	611	535	593	3.29
Combination of Specialty Practice, Research, and/or Teaching	6,510	15.4	553	610	537	589	3.31
Other	936	2.2	539	585	527	563	3.19
Undecided	4,187	9.9	562	615	542	597	3.38
No Response	1,103	2.6	544	574	538	553	3.03
Total	42,155	100.0	540	591	528	573	3.27

* Number with MCAT scores – 41,282; number with known GPAs – 37,239.
† VA = Verbal Ability, QA = Quantitative Ability, Gen = General Information, and Sci = Science.

Table 27
MCAT Scores and Undergraduate College Grades (GPA) of Applicants by Specialization Plans, 1976–77 First-Year Class

Specialization Plans	Applicant Pool		Mean MCAT Scores†				Grade Point Average
	No.	Percent	VA	QA	Gen	Sci	
Basic Medical Science	902	2.1	552	610	540	598	3.29
Family Practice	12,734	30.2	538	582	526	569	3.25
Internal Medicine	2,656	6.3	548	596	534	583	3.25
Obstetrics/Gynecology	1,235	2.9	511	548	503	523	3.16
Pediatrics	3,139	7.4	523	580	516	553	3.26
Psychiatry	1,225	2.9	568	588	553	568	3.22
Public Health, Community Medicine	1,686	4.0	546	576	535	560	3.18
Surgery or Surgical Specialty	5,660	13.4	523	589	514	567	3.25
Other Known Specialty	1,614	3.8	555	607	540	587	3.27
Plan to Specialize, Area Unknown	3,178	7.5	552	614	536	589	3.38
Do Not Plan to Specialize	1,698	4.0	531	586	520	567	3.25
Undecided	5,293	12.6	560	617	541	598	3.38
No Response	1,135	2.7	539	573	534	549	3.04
Total	42,155	100.0	540	591	528	573	3.27

* Number with MCAT scores – 41,282; number with known GPAs – 37,239.
† VA = Verbal Ability, QA = Quantitative Ability, Gen = General Information, and Sci = Science.

and women applicants (not reported in tabular form) revealed that a larger proportion of women applicants preferred obstetrics/gynecology (6.5 percent of women versus 1.7 percent of men) and pediatrics (11.6 percent of women versus 6.1 percent of men). Women were also more apt to indicate an interest in public health/community medicine (6.1 percent versus 3.3 percent). On the other hand, the 31.6 percent of all men preferring family practice compared with 25.7 percent of all women. Men were also more likely to state a preference for surgical specialties than were women applicants—15.1 percent and 8.0 percent, respectively.

3. Expected Character of Medical Practice

The distribution of 1976–77 applicants by the basic character or structure of their anticipated medical practices, given in Table 28, was essentially the same as for the previous year's pool. Hospital-based group practice, continuing to be the most popular, was the preference of 21 percent of applicants, while industrial medicine and medical administration, together, were the preferences of less than one percent of the pool (99 applicants).

Among applicants stating a preference with regard to this aspect of their career, those foreseeing a career devoted full-time to teaching and/or research had the highest mean scores on all four MCAT subtests and the highest mean GPA. A preference for medical administration, on the other hand, was least associated with high academic ability, although the small number of applicants in this group precludes any definite conclusions. (Additional information on 1976–77 applicants by expected character of medical practice is given in Appendix Table A-9.)

Comparisons by gender revealed that women were more apt to be planning hospital-based group practices (29 percent of women applicants versus 19 percent of men) and careers in public health (11 percent versus 5 percent). The relatively regular hours in these types of careers may be a plus factor for women anticipating familial obligations.

4. Expected Location of Medical Practice

In light of the problem of geographic maldistribution of physician manpower in the United States, major efforts have been made in recent years to encourage physicians to establish practices in medically underserved areas, the majority of which are rural. When applicants to the 1976–77 first-year class were asked to indicate the type of geographic area in which they planned to practice medicine, 52 percent of those

responding foresaw locating in areas with populations of 50,000 or less (Table 29). Of special interest, however, was the 15 percent of respondents desiring to locate in very rural areas—i.e., areas with populations of less than 2,500.

Table 29 shows that the relationship between the population size of the practice location preferred and the applicant's academic ability is generally a positive one. MCAT Science scores, for example, ranged from 566 for applicants planning small-town practices to

Table 28
MCAT Scores and Undergraduate College Grades (GPA) of Applicants by Expected Character of Medical Practice, 1976–77 First-Year Class*

Expected Character of Medical Practice	Applicant Pool		Mean MCAT Scores†				Grade Point Average
	No.	Percent	VA	QA	Gen	Sci	
Individual	7,799	18.5	534	584	525	568	3.24
Partnership	7,564	17.9	530	583	519	567	3.27
Private Group	4,346	10.3	551	596	533	579	3.29
Hospital Based Group	9,038	21.4	535	589	523	568	3.26
Full-Time Teaching and/or Research	1,590	3.8	554	618	541	600	3.30
Public Health	2,774	6.6	539	572	528	552	3.20
Industrial	22	0.1	536	599	537	560	3.05
Medical Administration	77	0.2	519	546	512	520	3.05
Other Medical Practice	754	1.8	555	594	544	575	3.24
Undecided	7,046	16.7	556	610	540	592	3.34
No Response	1,145	2.7	539	569	534	547	3.03
Total	42,155	100.0	540	591	528	573	3.27

* Number with MCAT scores – 41,282; number with known GPAs – 37,239.
† VA = Verbal Ability, QA = Quantitative Ability, Gen = General Information, and Sci = Science.

Table 29
MCAT Scores and Undergraduate College Grades (GPA) of Applicants by Expected Location of Medical Practice, 1976–77 First-Year Class*

Expected Location of Medical Practice	Applicant Pool		Mean MCAT Scores†				Grade Point Average
	No.	Percent	VA	QA	Gen	Sci	
Small town (less than 2,500)	5,793	13.7	533	576	524	566	3.25
Small city (2,500 to 50,000)	13,997	33.2	535	588	523	571	3.30
Moderate-sized city (50,000 to 500,000)	10,682	25.3	542	597	527	574	3.30
Large city (500,000 or more)	6,061	14.4	553	599	539	579	3.24
Suburb of a large city	1,812	4.3	548	621	530	592	3.34
No Response§	3,810	9.0	544	579	540	566	3.07
Total	42,155	100.0	540	591	528	573	3.27

* Number with MCAT scores – 41,282; number with known GPAs – 37,239.
† VA = Verbal Ability, QA = Quantitative Ability, Gen = General Information, and Sci = Science.
§ The question on "expected location of medical practice" was added to the MCAT questionnaire in 1974. The proportion of no responses is high since some applicants took the test prior to that year.

579 for those preferring to locate in large cities. Partially due to the role of academic ability in the selection process, the chances of acceptance were 34 percent for the former group and 44 percent for the latter (see Appendix Table A-10).

The positive relationship between applicants' anticipated practice locations and their academic performance is similar to, though less pronounced than, that observed in the earlier discussion of size of hometown. As illustrated in Table 30, this similarity stems, in part, from the fact that applicants generally foresee returning to practice in areas similar to their own hometowns. For those accepted, the stability of this location preference may depend on the location of the medical school and the residency program and the stability of the initial specialty interest.

Table 30
Expected Location of Medical Practice Distributed by Size of Hometown of Applicants to the 1976–77 First-Year Class*

Size of Hometown	Number Responding	Percentage Distribution by Expected Location of Medical Practice: Small Town	Small City	Moderate-sized City	Large City	Suburb of Large City	Total
On a farm	1,509	38.7	44.1	13.0	3.2	1.0	100.0
Small town (less than 2,500)	3,056	41.5	37.1	14.2	5.3	1.7	100.0
Small city (2,500 to 50,000)	11,171	14.7	58.2	19.6	5.7	1.8	100.0
Moderate-sized city (50,000 to 500,000)	8,912	10.4	28.6	49.4	9.4	2.3	100.0
Large city (500,000 or more)	7,114	7.9	18.8	25.9	43.2	4.1	100.0
Suburb of a large city	6,426	12.3	27.3	24.6	19.7	16.1	100.0
Total	38,188	15.1	36.5	27.9	15.8	4.7	100.0

* Excludes 3,967 applicants with "no response" to either question on expected location of medical practice or size of hometown.

IV. SUMMARY

The previous section presented a comprehensive description of the composition of the total pool of 42,155 applicants to the 1976–77 freshman medical school class. Comparisons with previous applicant pools revealed a number of significant trends with regard to who applied to medical school and what their chances of being admitted were in 1976. From the data actually presented and discussed and from the results that were reported on additional analyses, a number of significant findings emerge. These major findings are summarized below for each of the major subdivisions of Section III.

A. Application Activity

1. The size of the applicant pool for 1976–77 (42,155) was 148 less than the previous year's pool (a relative decline of .3 percent), thereby continuing the slight downward trend initiated with the 1975–76 pool.
2. The number of applicants accepted increased by 409 (from 15,365 for 1975–76 to 15,774 for 1976–77) for a relative growth of 2.7 percent. This increase and the modest decline in the size of the applicant pool resulted in a slightly better acceptance rate for 1976–77 applicants—37.4 percent, compared with 36.3 percent for the previous year.
3. The number of applications filed continued to increase, however, going from 8.65 per applicant in 1975–76 to 8.83 for 1976–77. The total number of applications filed for 1976–77 was 372,282.
4. The Early Decision Plan (EDP) was utilized by over 2,100 applicants, with 39 percent receiving an early acceptance. Most of those not accepted through EDP went on to apply through regular channels and experienced an acceptance rate of 45 percent.
5. Repeat applicants (those appearing in either or both of the two previous applicant pools) accounted for 33 percent of the 1976–77 applicant pool and, as in past years, were less successful in gaining admission. The acceptance rate for repeaters was 31 percent, compared with 41 percent for first-time applicants.
6. Undergraduate college seniors applying to medical school for the first time accounted for only 40 percent of the total pool. However, acceptance success for these "in-phase" applicants was 47 percent, in contrast to a 31 percent acceptance rate for all other applicants.
7. The number of first-year places available for newly-entering medical students increased by 372—from 14,910 in 1975–76 to 15,282 in 1976–77. The opening of two new medical schools accounted for 63 of these additional first-year places: 31 at the Uniformed Services School of the Health Sciences and 32 at Wright State University.

B. Demographic Characteristics of Applicants

1. The decline in the proportion of applicants below age 24 and a resulting slight increase in mean age for the total pool, observed in the 1975–76 study, continued for 1976–77. (Ages of applicants are as of the time they would be entering medical school.) The mean age for applicants increased from 24.1 to 24.2 years. For acceptees, the mean age for both years was 23.0.
2. The number of women applying to medical school, a record high of 10,244, was 669 greater than for the previous year. This annual increase of 7 percent compared with one of 10 percent for 1975–76. Women, who had accounted for 22.6 percent of the 1975–76 pool, represented 24.3 percent of all 1976–77 applicants and made similar gains among accepted applicants—from 23.6 percent to 24.7 percent. The acceptance rate for women continued to be slightly higher than that for men—38.3 percent and 37.1 percent, respectively.
3. The number of applicants from underrepresented minorities (i.e., black Americans, American Indians, Mexican Americans, and mainland Puerto Ricans), which had declined slightly for 1975–76, increased for 1976–77 to 3,323. The slight drop for the previous year corresponded with a greater fluctuation in the number of black freshmen enrolling in the nation's colleges four years earlier—the potential pool of black applicants. The 1,313 minority applicants accepted to the 1976–77 first-year class reflected an acceptance rate of 39.5 percent (compared with 37.4 percent for the total pool)—slightly lower than the 42.9 percent acceptance rate experienced by these applicants the previous year.
4. Data on the size of hometown of applicants, included for the first time in the applicant study

series, show that 41 percent of those responding were from hometowns of 50,000 or less populations. Acceptance success was found to covary with hometown population: approximately 35.7 percent of those from small towns (population of less than 2,500) were accepted, compared with 38.2 percent of those from cities with populations of 500,000 or more and 43.2 percent for those from suburbs of such cities.

5. The number of foreign citizens actually enrolled in first-year classes has remained rather stable over the past few years. Applicant data by citizenship (appearing for the first time) show that approximately 1,300 foreign citizens sought admission to U.S. medical school freshman classes. These accounted for approximately 3 percent of the total pool and, as a group, experienced an acceptance rate of 20 percent. The three countries supplying more than a hundred applicants were Nigeria (141), Hong Kong (136), and Canada (132).

C. Academic Background of Applicants

1. The majority of applicants for 1976–77 had or expected to receive bachelor's degree (85 percent) and over half (57 percent) had majored in either biology, chemistry, or zoology. Of those at the bachelor's degree level, 41 percent were successful in getting admitted, compared with acceptance rates of 27 percent for applicants at the master's level and 16 percent for those at the doctoral level. As with previous pools, acceptance success was not strongly related to undergraduate major.

2. Regarding the academic ability of applicants (as measured by MCAT scores and undergraduate GPAs), the annual increases observed in the past continued for 1976–77. When the pool was subdivided by racial/ethnic self-description, white/Caucasians and Oriental Americans continued to present the most outstanding academic records. Analysis by size of hometown revealed that academic ability (and acceptance rates) were positively related to hometown population.

D. Socioeconomic Background of Applicants

1. The increase over the previous year in the median parental income of applicants to medical school was 7.1 percent—from $18,400 for 1975–76 to $19,700 for 1976–77. (As explained in the discussion of parents' income, these median incomes are for 1973 and 1974, respectively.) This paralleled the 7.1 percent increase in median income for all U.S. families. The median for women applicants ($19,300) was slightly lower than that for men ($19,800). However, for racial/ethnic groups, the difference was more substantial—$11,300 for underrepresented minority applicants and $21,000 for white/Caucasians. For the total pool, a high positive relationship existed between parents' income, academic achievement, and acceptance success.

2. Findings on parental occupations reflected those for parental incomes. Sixty-three percent of white/Caucasians, as opposed to 31 percent of underrepresented minority applicants, had fathers who were professionals (including physicians) or owners, managers, and administrators.

3. The proportion indicating "homemaker" as their mother's occupation (48 percent for the total pool) was slightly lower for women applicants (44 percent) than men (49 percent). The proportion of white/Caucasians with mothers as homemakers was 52 percent; for minority applicants, 33 percent.

E. Career Plans of Applicants

1. The most noteworthy finding with regard to the career aspirations of 1976–77 applicants was the continued increase in the proportion planning on general/primary care practice as their "major career activity" (as opposed to specialty practice, research and/or teaching, administration, etc.). Only 27 percent for the 1973–74 applicant pool, the proportion planning on general practice careers increased from 41 percent in 1975–76 to 43 percent for 1976–77.

2. With regard to actual specialty, 52 percent (of those respondents having decided) foresaw entering one of the "primary care" fields—i.e., family medicine, internal medicine, or pediatrics.

3. Fifty-two percent of those responding anticipated establishing practices in areas with populations of 50,000 or less. Of special interest, however, was the 15 percent planning to locate in very rural areas (populations of less than 2,500). Additional analysis of these location preferences revealed that applicants generally planned to practice in areas similar to their own hometowns.

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GLOSSARY

ACCEPTEE
An applicant accepted for admission at one or more medical schools. The term is limited to this sense and does not indicate that the applicant actually matriculated. Acceptees actually enrolling are referred to as "new entrants."

APPLICANT
The formal definition of "applicant," as given in the 1972–73 applicant study and elsewhere is as follows:

A medical school applicant is a person who has carried his application procedure far enough to be eligible for consideration by the Committee on Admission according to the rules of the school to which he is applying.

1. A person is not an applicant simply by reason of requesting application forms, no matter how this request is phrased.

2. A person is not an applicant if he is automatically excluded from consideration because of his residence or other publicly specified restriction.

3. A person is not an applicant if he filed his application after the final closing date for receipt of applications and, therefore, receives no consideration as a candidate.

4. A person is an applicant if, according to the rules of the school, he has completed the procedure which makes him eligible for consideration but withdraws his candidacy before he is actually considered.

"IN PHASE" APPLICANT
An applicant who is in his/her senior year of undergraduate college and is applying for admission to medical school for the first time.

NEW ENTRANT
An acceptee who actually matriculates for the first time in the first-year class at a U.S. medical school. Excludes students repeating the first-year.

REPEATER
For the present study, a repeater is an applicant seeking admission to medical school in 1976–77 who also applied for admission to either the 1974–75 or the 1975–76 first-year class.

APPENDIX TABLES

Commentary for Appendix Tables

Acceptance rates and academic ability of applicants to the 1976–77 first-year class are given in the following ten appendix tables by selected demographic and background characteristics and by career plan variables. Information for these tables was derived from the AMCAS application form, the MCAT examination and questionnaire, and medical school application reports.

Given in each of these tables are (a) MCAT data (in cols. 2–7); (b) GPA data (cols. 8–12); and (c) acceptance rates for the total number of applicants, including those for whom MCAT or GPAs were unavailable (cols. 13–14). These data appear for each variable category listed in column 1.

In Appendix Table A-2, for example, the top row of data for "Black/Afro-American" applicants shows that 952 of those with MCAT scores were accepted (col. 2), that this represented 38.6 percent of all Black/Afro-American applicants with MCAT scores (col.3), and that the mean MCAT Verbal Ability (VA) subtest score for accepted applicants giving this self-descriptor was 477 (col. 4). Mean scores for the MCAT Quantitative Ability (QA), General Information (Gen), and Science (Sci) subtests are given in columns 5, 6, and 7, respectively.

Similar data are given in the middle row for non-accepted Black/Afro-Americans and in the bottom row for the total number of Black/Afro-American applicants. Note that for the "Total" row of each category appearing in column 1, all percentage columns (cols. 3, 9, and 14) contain the actual "column percentage." For example, the 2,464 Black/Afro-Americans accounted for 5.9 percent (col. 3) of the total of 41,282 applicants with MCAT scores.

In the top row of data for Black/Afro-Americans, column 8 shows that 894 of those with known GPAs were accepted. This represented 39.8 percent of all those Black/Afro-Americans with known GPAs (col. 9). For these acceptees, column 10 shows a GPA of 2.81 for Biology, Chemistry, Physics, and Mathematics courses (BCPM). The mean GPA for "all other" (AO) courses, given in column 11, was 3.12, while the GPA for all courses was 2.94 (shown in column 12 under the "Total" heading). In the bottom or "Total" row, column 9 shows that 6.0 percent of those applicants with known GPAs described themselves as Black/Afro-Americans.

Column 13 shows that 966 of all Black/Afro-American applicants—including those without MCAT scores or GPAs—were accepted. As shown in column 14, this accounted for 38.2 percent of all Black/Afro-Americans applying to the 1976–77 first-year class. The middle row reports 1,557 applicants or 61.7 percent as not accepted, and the bottom row shows that the total of 2,523 Black/Afro-American applicants represented 5.9 percent of the 42,155 individuals comprising the entire applicant pool.

Table A-1

MCAT Scores and Undergraduate College Grades of Applicants by Acceptance Status and by Size of Hometown, 1976-77 First-year Class

Size of Hometown	No. with MCATs	% with MCATs	Mean MCAT Scores				No. with GPAs	% with GPAs	Mean UG GPAs			Total Number	%
			VA	QA	Gen	Sci			BCPM	AO	Total		
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)
ON A FARM													
ACCEPTED	628	39.9	542	608	523	597	567	41.7	3.51	3.54	3.52	628	39.9
NON-ACCEPTED	944	60.8	494	537	493	519	798	58.8	3.10	3.26	3.16	944	60.0
TOTAL	1572	7.8	514	564	505	550	1465	3.9	3.27	3.37	3.31	1572	3.9
SMALL TOWN (LESS THAN 2,500)													
ACCEPTED	1134	35.7	555	616	535	607	1060	35.8	3.52	3.54	3.53	1134	35.7
NON-ACCEPTED	2039	64.2	504	547	502	528	1817	63.1	3.04	3.21	3.12	2039	64.2
TOTAL	3173	7.8	522	572	514	554	2877	7.5	3.19	3.34	3.27	3173	7.8
SMALL CITY (2,500 TO 50,000)													
ACCEPTED	4271	36.5	588	629	566	616	3969	37.8	3.51	3.54	3.52	4271	36.5
NON-ACCEPTED	7405	63.4	519	564	513	565	6516	62.1	3.04	3.25	3.15	7405	63.4
TOTAL	11676	28.7	547	588	532	581	10485	28.1	3.24	3.38	3.30	11676	28.7
MID SIZE CITY(50,000-500,000)													
ACCEPTED	3548	38.3	571	624	565	611	3306	39.8	3.47	3.52	3.50	3548	38.3
NON-ACCEPTED	5720	61.6	518	562	511	561	4980	60.1	3.04	3.23	3.13	5720	61.6
TOTAL	9267	22.8	539	586	532	584	8326	22.3	3.21	3.34	3.29	9268	22.8
LARGE CITY (500,000 OR MORE													
ACCEPTED	2854	38.1	574	634	563	616	2637	39.7	3.39	3.46	3.42	2854	38.1
NON-ACCEPTED	4623	61.8	522	586	517	565	3982	60.2	3.04	3.20	3.08	4623	61.4
TOTAL	7477	18.1	543	605	541	589	6620	17.8	3.16	3.30	3.22	7476	18.7
SUBURB OF A LARGE CITY													
ACCEPTED	2934	43.2	590	654	585	638	2760	43.4	3.53	3.55	3.54	2934	43.2
NON-ACCEPTED	3857	56.7	541	593	532	575	3594	56.5	3.20	3.27	3.24	3857	56.7
TOTAL	6791	16.4	562	621	556	602	6354	16.9	3.34	3.40	3.36	6791	16.1
NO RESPONSE													
ACCEPTED	193	14.9	584	618	562	615	197	15.5	3.24	3.32	3.27	193	17.7
NON-ACCEPTED	1101	85.0	533	582	533	563	996	84.4	3.04	3.03	3.04	1178	82.7
TOTAL	1294	3.1	541	591	534	583	1193	2.9	3.05	3.08	3.08	2142	5.1
TOTAL													
ACCEPTED	15584	37.7	573	633	549	618	14478	38.4	3.48	3.52	3.50	15774	37.8
NON-ACCEPTED	25808	62.3	521	574	515	563	23230	61.6	3.05	3.22	3.13	26161	62.3
TOTAL	41392	100.0	540	591	534	573	37258	100.0	3.22	3.34	3.27	42154	100.0

Table A-2

MCAT Scores and Undergraduate College Grades of Applicants by Acceptance Status and by Self-Description, 1976-77 First-Year Class

Self-Description	No. with MCATs	% with MCATs	Mean MCAT Scores				No. with GPAs	% with GPAs	Mean UG GPAs			Total Number	%
			VA	QA	Gen	Sci			BCPM	AO	Total		
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)
BLACK/AFRO-AMERICAN													
ACCEPTED	952	38.6	477	523	470	510	894	39.8	2.81	3.12	2.94	966	38.2
NON-ACCEPTED	1512	61.3	415	444	430	413	1350	60.1	2.38	2.80	2.57	1557	61.7
TOTAL	2464	5.9	439	474	445	456	2244	6.0	2.55	2.93	2.72	2523	5.9
AMERICAN INDIAN													
ACCEPTED	39	30.7	529	567	533	551	38	34.8	2.84	3.10	2.97	39	30.4
NON-ACCEPTED	88	69.2	492	518	484	504	71	65.1	2.78	3.07	2.92	89	69.5
TOTAL	127	0.3	503	537	499	518	109	0.2	2.81	3.08	2.95	128	0.3
WHITE/CAUCASIAN													
ACCEPTED	12977	38.7	582	643	557	628	12244	39.3	3.54	3.55	3.55	13038	38.7
NON-ACCEPTED	20481	61.2	534	578	526	561	18870	60.6	3.10	3.26	3.17	20627	61.2
TOTAL	33458	81.0	552	603	538	587	31114	83.5	3.28	3.38	3.32	33665	79.8
MEXICAN/AMERICAN OR CHICANO													
ACCEPTED	222	48.4	517	563	503	549	204	49.3	3.10	3.29	3.18	223	48.4
NON-ACCEPTED	236	51.5	450	494	467	465	209	50.6	2.58	2.96	2.74	237	51.5
TOTAL	458	1.1	483	527	484	506	413	1.1	2.84	3.12	2.96	460	1.0
ORIENTAL/ASIAN-AMERICAN													
ACCEPTED	425	35.1	583	677	544	635	400	36.1	3.54	3.58	3.57	424	34.9
NON-ACCEPTED	783	64.8	502	613	492	554	706	63.8	3.13	3.30	3.20	793	65.0
TOTAL	1208	2.9	530	635	510	585	1106	2.9	3.29	3.40	3.34	1219	2.8
PUERTO RICAN (MAINLAND)													
ACCEPTED	85	40.6	509	549	496	546	82	44.5	3.06	3.25	3.15	85	40.0
NON-ACCEPTED	124	59.3	451	479	467	451	102	55.4	2.58	2.98	2.76	127	59.9
TOTAL	209	0.5	475	508	478	489	184	0.4	2.80	3.10	2.94	212	0.5
PUERTO RICAN (COMMONWEALTH)*													
ACCEPTED	78	28.5	478	535	477	518	29	48.3	3.41	3.48	3.44	78	28.5
NON-ACCEPTED	195	71.4	426	452	431	410	31	51.6	3.00	3.19	3.06	195	71.4
TOTAL	273	0.6	441	474	444	441	60	0.1	3.21	3.35	3.26	273	0.6
CUBAN													
ACCEPTED	81	33.6	522	574	522	562	77	37.3	3.33	3.45	3.38	82	33.4
NON-ACCEPTED	160	66.3	477	520	487	513	129	62.6	2.89	3.22	3.03	163	66.5
TOTAL	241	0.5	492	538	499	529	206	0.5	3.06	3.31	3.16	245	0.5
OTHER													
ACCEPTED	277	23.3	567	631	549	608	250	24.6	3.42	3.51	3.47	279	22.8
NON-ACCEPTED	911	76.6	483	544	489	519	766	75.3	2.99	3.19	3.08	941	77.1
TOTAL	1188	2.8	503	567	503	540	1016	2.7	3.09	3.27	3.18	1220	2.8
NO RESPONSE													
ACCEPTED	448	27.0	571	624	549	614	258	32.7	3.51	3.50	3.51	558	25.2
NON-ACCEPTED	1208	72.9	519	561	517	532	529	67.2	3.09	3.25	3.16	1652	74.7
TOTAL	1656	4.0	533	571	525	554	787	2.1	3.23	3.33	3.27	2210	5.2
TOTAL													
ACCEPTED	15584	37.7	573	633	549	618	14476	38.8	3.48	3.52	3.50	15774	37.4
NON-ACCEPTED	25798	62.2	521	584	515	546	22763	61.1	3.05	3.23	3.13	26381	62.5
TOTAL	41282	100.0	540	591	528	573	37239	100.0	3.22	3.34	3.27	42155	100.0

*See footnote to Table 11.

Table A-3

MCAT Scores and Undergraduate College Grades of Applicants by Acceptance Status and by Parental Income, 1976-77 First-Year Class*

Parental Income	No. with MCATs	% with MCATs	Mean MCAT Scores				No. with GPAs	% with GPAs	Mean UG GPAs			Total Number	%
			VA	QA	Gen	Sci			BCPM	AO	Total		
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)
LESS THAN $5,000													
ACCEPTED	478	32.9	532	580	513	573	442	34.5	3.31	3.39	3.36	474	32.8
NON-ACCEPTED	975	67.1	475	519	477	489	837	65.4	2.87	3.12	2.98	977	67.1
TOTAL	1453	4.8	494	542	489	514	1279	4.5	1.02	3.21	3.10	1455	4.4
$5,000 - $9,000													
ACCEPTED	1034	36.7	547	605	529	593	937	37.6	3.41	3.47	3.43	1034	36.7
NON-ACCEPTED	1780	63.2	495	537	493	511	1549	62.3	2.94	3.17	3.06	1780	63.2
TOTAL	2814	9.3	514	562	506	541	2486	8.9	3.13	3.28	3.20	2814	9.1
$10,000 - $11,999													
ACCEPTED	976	39.2	558	621	536	606	912	40.1	3.48	3.53	3.50	976	39.1
NON-ACCEPTED	1514	60.8	505	561	505	527	1360	59.8	3.04	3.22	3.12	1515	60.8
TOTAL	2490	8.2	526	579	517	558	2272	8.1	3.22	3.35	3.27	2491	8.2
$12,000 - $14,999													
ACCEPTED	1420	39.7	566	629	563	612	1324	40.2	3.52	3.56	3.54	1420	39.7
NON-ACCEPTED	2155	60.2	510	562	508	538	1963	59.7	3.09	3.27	3.17	2156	60.3
TOTAL	3575	11.8	532	589	522	567	3287	11.8	3.24	3.39	3.32	3576	11.8
$15,000 - $19,999													
ACCEPTED	2046	42.9	570	635	566	618	1933	43.8	3.55	3.59	3.57	2044	42.9
NON-ACCEPTED	2714	57.0	518	572	514	547	2477	56.1	3.12	3.29	3.19	2715	57.0
TOTAL	4760	15.7	540	599	529	578	4410	15.8	3.31	3.42	3.35	4761	15.7
$20,000 - $24,999													
ACCEPTED	2113	44.5	576	644	553	624	1995	44.9	3.56	3.58	3.57	2113	44.5
NON-ACCEPTED	2635	55.5	523	577	517	552	2444	55.0	3.10	3.27	3.17	2635	55.5
TOTAL	4748	15.7	547	607	533	584	4439	15.9	3.31	3.41	3.35	4748	15.7
$25,000 - $49,999													
ACCEPTED	3066	46.9	585	650	559	629	2900	47.4	3.53	3.55	3.54	3066	46.9
NON-ACCEPTED	3461	53.0	530	582	525	556	3211	52.5	3.09	3.26	3.17	3461	53.0
TOTAL	6527	21.6	556	614	541	590	6111	21.9	3.30	3.40	3.34	6527	21.8
$50,000 OR MORE													
ACCEPTED	1623	49.2	587	646	558	625	1549	49.7	3.46	3.49	3.48	1623	49.2
NON-ACCEPTED	1674	50.7	527	570	522	550	1566	50.2	3.01	3.20	3.09	1674	50.7
TOTAL	3297	10.9	557	608	540	587	3115	11.1	3.23	3.35	3.28	3297	10.9
NO RESPONSE													
ACCEPTED	191	38.7	594	645	558	623	186	40.0	3.45	3.52	3.47	191	38.7
NON-ACCEPTED	302	61.2	535	567	529	545	278	59.9	2.98	3.20	3.07	302	61.2
TOTAL	493	1.6	558	598	540	575	464	1.6	3.17	3.33	3.23	493	1.6
TOTAL													
ACCEPTED	12949	42.9	572	634	548	617	12178	43.7	3.51	3.54	3.52	12949	42.9
NON-ACCEPTED	17210	57.0	516	565	512	540	15685	56.2	3.06	3.24	3.14	17215	57.0
TOTAL	30159	100.0	540	595	527	573	27863	100.0	3.25	3.37	3.30	30164	100.0

* Includes only those applicants to the 1976-77 first-year class who took the MCAT in 1975--approximately 72 percent of the entire pool of 42,155. Incomes reported are for 1974.

Table A-4

MCAT Scores and Undergraduate College Grades of Applicants by Acceptance Status and by Father's Occupation, 1976-77 First-Year Class

Father's Occupation	No. with MCATs	% with MCATs	Mean MCAT Scores				No. with GPAs	% with GPAs	Mean UG GPAs			Total Number	%
			VA	QA	Gen	Sci			BCPM	AO	Total		
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)
PHYSICIAN													
ACCEPTED	2144	43.5	580	630	554	617	2026	44.7	3.40	3.46	3.43	2144	43.5
NON-ACCEPTED	2806	56.4	532	567	524	553	2499	55.2	2.98	3.17	3.06	2806	56.4
TOTAL	4972	12.0	553	595	537	581	4525	12.1	3.17	3.30	3.23	4979	11.7
OTHER HEALTH OCCUPATION													
ACCEPTED	728	39.1	571	633	551	619	667	40.0	3.49	3.54	3.51	728	39.1
NON-ACCEPTED	1131	60.8	521	564	514	546	999	59.9	3.05	3.22	3.13	1131	60.8
TOTAL	1859	4.5	541	591	531	575	1466	4.4	3.23	3.35	3.28	1859	4.4
OTHER PROFESSION													
ACCEPTED	3901	41.2	585	645	559	626	3588	42.1	3.52	3.55	3.53	3901	41.2
NON-ACCEPTED	5555	58.7	534	579	524	569	4931	57.8	3.10	3.27	3.17	5555	58.7
TOTAL	9456	22.9	555	606	539	586	8519	22.8	3.28	3.39	3.32	9456	22.4
OWNER, MANAGER, ADMINISTRATOR (NON-FARM)													
ACCEPTED	3917	37.8	578	643	555	627	3651	39.1	3.52	3.55	3.53	3917	37.8
NON-ACCEPTED	6440	62.1	528	579	521	556	5687	60.9	3.10	3.26	3.17	6442	62.1
TOTAL	10357	25.0	547	601	534	583	9338	25.0	3.28	3.37	3.31	10359	24.5
CLERICAL OR SALES WORKER													
ACCEPTED	744	33.6	571	629	548	615	693	35.4	3.48	3.55	3.51	744	33.5
NON-ACCEPTED	1474	66.4	523	572	521	550	1262	64.5	3.07	3.25	3.15	1475	66.4
TOTAL	2220	5.3	539	591	530	572	1955	5.2	3.21	3.36	3.28	2221	5.2
CRAFTSMAN, SKILLED WORKER													
ACCEPTED	1267	32.0	559	623	536	612	1190	33.3	3.48	3.52	3.50	1267	32.0
NON-ACCEPTED	2687	67.9	509	552	504	536	2375	66.6	3.03	3.21	3.11	2687	67.9
TOTAL	3954	9.5	525	575	514	561	3565	9.5	3.18	3.31	3.24	3954	9.3
UNSKILLED WORKERS, LABORERS, PRIVATE HOUSEHOLD WORKER (NON-FARM)													
ACCEPTED	640	35.1	529	589	510	575	610	37.1	3.31	3.41	3.35	640	35.1
NON-ACCEPTED	1182	64.8	479	522	482	499	1033	62.8	2.86	3.12	2.97	1182	64.9
TOTAL	1822	4.4	497	544	492	525	1643	4.4	3.03	3.23	3.11	1822	4.3
FARMER, FARM WORKER													
ACCEPTED	447	37.5	535	604	516	594	403	39.2	3.50	3.53	3.51	447	37.5
NON-ACCEPTED	743	62.4	485	532	487	509	624	60.7	3.06	3.21	3.13	744	62.4
TOTAL	1190	2.8	504	560	498	541	1027	2.7	3.23	3.34	3.28	1191	2.8
HOMEMAKER													
ACCEPTED	14	15.3	544	592	541	580	11	17.1	3.27	3.36	3.27	14	15.3
NON-ACCEPTED	77	84.6	505	543	500	512	53	82.8	2.90	3.11	3.00	77	84.7
TOTAL	91	0.2	511	550	506	523	64	0.1	2.94	3.15	3.06	91	0.2
OTHER													
ACCEPTED	1441	34.2	559	619	537	606	1529	35.4	3.44	3.50	3.47	1461	34.2
NON-ACCEPTED	2768	65.7	508	553	506	532	2787	64.5	3.04	3.23	3.12	2788	65.7
TOTAL	4849	11.7	525	575	514	557	4316	11.5	3.18	3.32	3.24	4849	11.5
NO RESPONSE													
ACCEPTED	97	18.9	575	617	558	610	108	17.3	3.33	3.39	3.36	287	20.7
NON-ACCEPTED	414	81.0	524	554	521	534	513	82.6	2.87	3.02	2.95	1094	79.2
TOTAL	511	1.2	536	544	528	548	621	1.4	2.95	3.09	3.02	1381	3.2
TOTAL													
ACCEPTED	15584	37.7	573	633	549	618	14476	38.9	3.48	3.52	3.50	15774	37.4
NON-ACCEPTED	25698	62.2	521	564	515	546	22763	61.1	3.05	3.23	3.13	26341	62.5
TOTAL	41282	100.0	540	591	529	573	37239	100.0	3.22	3.34	3.27	42155	100.0

Table A-5

MCAT Scores and Undergraduate College Grades of Applicants by Acceptance Status and by Father's Education, 1976-77 First-Year Class

Father's Education	No. with MCATs	% with MCATs	Mean MCAT Scores VA	QA	Gen	Sci	No. with GPAs	% with GPAs	Mean UG GPAs BCPM	AO	Total	Total Number	%
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)
EIGHTH GRADE OR LESS													
ACCEPTED	857	33.0	527	591	513	581	779	34.9	3.32	3.34	3.35	857	33.0
NON-ACCEPTED	1733	66.9	484	521	483	490	1451	65.0	2.88	3.10	2.98	1734	66.9
TOTAL	2590	6.2	498	545	493	526	2230	5.9	3.04	3.20	3.11	2591	6.1
SOME HIGH SCHOOL													
ACCEPTED	718	29.0	550	609	529	597	693	31.5	3.42	3.48	3.44	718	29.0
NON-ACCEPTED	1755	70.1	499	544	500	523	1502	68.4	3.01	3.18	3.09	1736	70.1
TOTAL	2473	5.9	515	563	508	545	2195	5.8	3.14	3.28	3.20	2474	5.8
COMPLETED HIGH SCHOOL													
ACCEPTED	2129	33.1	557	625	539	611	1992	34.7	3.49	3.53	3.51	2129	33.1
NON-ACCEPTED	4289	66.8	509	561	508	539	3738	65.2	3.06	3.23	3.14	4290	66.8
TOTAL	6418	15.5	525	582	518	563	5730	15.1	3.21	3.34	3.27	6419	15.2
SPECIALIZED TECHNICAL													
ACCEPTED	658	32.2	559	620	534	609	612	33.2	3.46	3.53	3.49	658	32.2
NON-ACCEPTED	1383	67.7	510	559	510	540	1227	66.7	3.04	3.23	3.12	1383	67.7
TOTAL	2041	4.9	526	579	518	562	1839	4.9	3.18	3.33	3.25	2041	4.8
SOME COLLEGE													
ACCEPTED	2050	35.4	571	633	548	620	1904	36.7	3.50	3.55	3.52	2050	35.4
NON-ACCEPTED	3727	64.5	521	565	516	544	3283	63.2	3.07	3.24	3.14	3727	64.5
TOTAL	5777	13.9	539	589	527	572	5187	13.9	3.22	3.35	3.28	5777	13.7
COMPLETED COLLEGE													
ACCEPTED	3125	40.7	581	645	555	626	2897	41.7	3.54	3.56	3.54	3125	40.7
NON-ACCEPTED	4543	59.2	533	585	524	565	4038	58.2	3.12	3.28	3.19	4544	59.2
TOTAL	7668	18.5	553	610	537	590	6935	18.6	3.29	3.39	3.34	7669	18.1
GRADUATE OR PROFESSIONAL													
ACCEPTED	5914	42.9	585	640	559	624	5476	43.9	3.47	3.51	3.49	5914	42.9
NON-ACCEPTED	7862	57.0	535	574	526	566	6980	56.0	3.05	3.23	3.13	7863	57.0
TOTAL	13776	33.3	556	603	540	585	12456	33.4	3.24	3.36	3.29	13777	32.6
OTHER													
ACCEPTED	51	24.6	536	604	519	584	44	24.5	3.31	3.43	3.36	51	24.6
NON-ACCEPTED	156	75.3	487	534	483	508	135	75.4	2.99	3.18	3.05	156	75.3
TOTAL	207	0.5	499	541	492	526	179	0.4	3.07	3.24	3.13	207	0.4
NO RESPONSE													
ACCEPTED	42	18.6	583	612	561	604	79	16.1	3.35	3.45	3.39	252	21.0
NON-ACCEPTED	290	81.3	534	565	530	561	409	83.4	2.89	3.04	2.96	948	79.0
TOTAL	332	0.8	543	572	535	553	488	1.3	2.96	3.11	3.03	1200	2.8
TOTAL													
ACCEPTED	15584	37.7	573	633	549	618	14476	38.9	3.48	3.52	3.50	15774	37.4
NON-ACCEPTED	25698	62.2	521	564	515	546	22763	61.1	3.05	3.23	3.13	26381	62.5
TOTAL	41282	100.0	540	591	528	573	37239	100.0	3.22	3.34	3.27	42155	100.0

Table A-6

MCAT Scores and Undergraduate College Grades of Applicants by Acceptance Status and by Mother's Occupation, 1976-77 First-Year Class

Mother's Occupation	No. with MCATs	% with MCATs	Mean MCAT Scores VA	QA	Gen	Sci	No. with GPAs	% with GPAs	Mean UG GPAs BCPM	AO	Total	Total Number	%
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)
PHYSICIAN													
ACCEPTED	155	45.9	609	655	575	628	144	47.3	3.65	3.44	3.44	155	45.9
NON-ACCEPTED	182	54.0	547	573	534	546	160	52.6	2.90	3.12	3.00	182	54.0
TOTAL	337	0.8	575	611	554	584	304	0.8	3.16	3.28	3.21	337	0.8
OTHER HEALTH OCCUPATION													
ACCEPTED	1207	37.3	572	622	546	614	1104	38.4	3.45	3.50	3.48	1207	37.3
NON-ACCEPTED	2029	62.7	516	552	512	537	1765	61.5	3.00	3.21	3.09	2029	62.7
TOTAL	3236	7.6	537	578	524	566	2869	7.7	3.19	3.32	3.24	3236	7.6
OTHER PROFESSION													
ACCEPTED	2197	44.0	577	637	556	619	2028	45.3	3.44	3.51	3.48	2197	44.0
NON-ACCEPTED	2795	55.9	529	564	521	566	2440	54.6	3.04	3.24	3.13	2796	56.0
TOTAL	4992	11.8	550	597	536	578	4468	12.0	3.23	3.36	3.29	4993	11.8
OWNER, MANAGER, ADMINISTRATOR (NON-FARM)													
ACCEPTED	636	35.5	571	632	549	621	594	37.3	3.44	3.47	3.45	636	35.5
NON-ACCEPTED	1151	64.4	522	567	520	545	997	62.6	3.03	3.20	3.10	1151	64.4
TOTAL	1787	4.3	539	590	530	572	1591	4.2	3.18	3.30	3.23	1787	4.2
CLERICAL OR SALES WORKER													
ACCEPTED	1794	36.0	574	637	550	620	1686	37.2	3.51	3.55	3.53	1794	36.0
NON-ACCEPTED	3178	63.9	528	576	521	556	2842	62.7	3.09	3.27	3.17	3179	63.9
TOTAL	4972	12.0	545	598	532	579	4528	12.1	3.25	3.37	3.30	4973	11.8
CRAFTSMAN, SKILLED WORKER													
ACCEPTED	200	28.9	556	615	528	598	188	31.4	3.38	3.47	3.42	200	28.9
NON-ACCEPTED	492	71.1	508	558	506	534	409	68.5	2.93	3.13	3.02	492	71.1
TOTAL	692	1.6	522	574	512	554	597	1.6	3.08	3.23	3.15	692	1.6
UNSKILLED WORKERS, LABORERS, PRIVATE HOUSEHOLD WORKER (NON-FARM)													
ACCEPTED	384	32.3	527	599	513	580	361	34.0	3.35	3.41	3.38	384	32.3
NON-ACCEPTED	804	67.6	477	524	480	503	698	65.9	2.89	3.14	3.00	804	67.6
TOTAL	1188	2.8	493	550	491	529	1059	2.8	3.05	3.23	3.13	1188	2.8
FARMER, FARM WORKER													
ACCEPTED	24	24.0	510	580	505	581	21	25.3	3.19	3.23	3.23	24	24.0
NON-ACCEPTED	76	76.0	475	524	485	501	62	74.7	2.91	3.10	3.00	76	76.0
TOTAL	100	0.2	484	537	490	521	83	0.2	3.00	3.14	3.06	100	0.2
HOMEMAKER													
ACCEPTED	7847	38.7	574	636	549	620	7302	39.7	3.50	3.54	3.52	7847	38.7
NON-ACCEPTED	12398	61.2	522	570	516	550	11084	60.2	3.08	3.24	3.15	12401	61.2
TOTAL	20245	48.0	543	595	529	577	18386	49.1	3.25	3.38	3.30	20248	48.0
OTHER													
ACCEPTED	984	35.6	565	624	543	611	890	37.0	3.48	3.51	3.50	984	35.6
NON-ACCEPTED	1779	64.3	508	560	504	536	1511	62.9	3.04	3.23	3.13	1779	64.3
TOTAL	2762	6.6	528	583	518	563	2401	6.4	3.21	3.33	3.26	2762	6.5
NO RESPONSE													
ACCEPTED	156	14.0	573	617	561	608	158	16.5	3.25	3.31	3.28	344	18.8
NON-ACCEPTED	815	83.9	529	560	531	542	795	83.4	2.87	3.03	2.95	1493	81.1
TOTAL	971	2.3	536	569	536	553	953	2.5	2.94	3.08	3.01	1839	4.3
TOTAL													
ACCEPTED	15584	37.7	573	633	549	618	14476	38.8	3.48	3.52	3.50	15774	37.4
NON-ACCEPTED	25698	62.2	521	566	515	544	22763	61.1	3.05	3.23	3.13	26381	62.5
TOTAL	41282	100.0	540	591	528	573	37239	100.0	3.22	3.34	3.27	42155	100.0

Table A-7

MCAT Scores and Undergraduate College Grades of Applicants by Acceptance Status and by General Career Activity Plans, 1976-77 First-Year Class

General Career Activity Plans	No. with MCATs	% with MCATs	Mean MCAT Scores VA	QA	Gen	Sci	No. with GPAs	% with GPAs	Mean UG GPAs BCPM	AO	Total	Total Number	%
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)
General/Primary Care Practice													
ACCEPTED	6195	34.6	567	622	595	612	5773	35.6	3.46	3.50	3.47	6195	34.4
NON-ACCEPTED	11799	65.5	519	581	514	544	10441	64.3	3.04	3.22	3.12	11803	65.5
TOTAL	17994	43.5	535	589	525	568	16214	43.5	3.19	3.32	3.24	17997	42.6
SPECIALTY PRACTICE													
ACCEPTED	3791	37.9	565	627	592	609	3527	39.7	3.47	3.53	3.49	3791	37.9
NON-ACCEPTED	6189	62.0	512	557	508	531	5353	60.2	3.02	3.24	3.13	6189	62.0
TOTAL	9980	24.1	532	584	521	560	8880	23.8	3.20	3.35	3.21	9980	23.6
RESEARCH AND/OR TEACHING													
ACCEPTED	539	37.3	581	655	561	641	483	38.3	3.56	3.62	3.55	539	37.1
NON-ACCEPTED	903	62.6	521	584	520	564	778	61.7	3.10	3.18	3.14	903	62.4
TOTAL	1442	3.4	543	611	535	593	1261	3.3	3.28	3.41	3.29	1442	3.4
COMBINATION OF SPECIALTY PRACTICE, RESEARCH, AND/OR TEACHING													
ACCEPTED	2752	42.2	584	651	557	630	2547	43.8	3.50	3.53	3.52	2752	42.2
NON-ACCEPTED	3758	57.7	531	580	523	559	3268	56.2	3.08	3.22	3.14	3758	57.7
TOTAL	6510	15.7	553	610	537	589	5815	15.6	3.26	3.36	3.31	6510	15.4
OTHER													
ACCEPTED	304	32.4	580	638	559	618	291	35.3	3.60	3.67	3.63	304	32.4
NON-ACCEPTED	632	67.5	520	569	512	537	535	64.6	2.98	3.14	3.05	632	67.5
TOTAL	936	2.2	539	585	527	567	823	2.2	3.13	3.26	3.19	936	2.2
UNDECIDED													
ACCEPTED	1958	46.7	585	644	557	628	1791	46.8	3.54	3.56	3.55	1958	46.7
NON-ACCEPTED	2227	53.2	541	588	529	570	2033	53.1	3.16	3.31	3.23	2229	53.2
TOTAL	4185	10.1	562	615	542	597	3824	10.2	3.34	3.43	3.38	4187	9.9
NO RESPONSE													
ACCEPTED	45	19.1	584	612	577	604	64	15.1	3.35	3.42	3.37	235	21.3
NON-ACCEPTED	190	80.8	534	565	529	542	358	84.8	2.88	3.04	2.96	868	78.6
TOTAL	235	0.5	544	574	538	553	422	1.1	2.95	3.10	3.03	1103	2.6
TOTAL													
ACCEPTED	15584	37.7	573	633	569	618	14476	38.8	3.48	3.52	3.50	15774	37.4
NON-ACCEPTED	25698	62.2	521	584	515	546	22763	61.1	3.05	3.23	3.13	26341	62.5
TOTAL	41282	100.0	540	591	529	573	37239	100.0	3.22	3.34	3.27	42155	100.0

Table A-8

MCAT Scores and Undergraduate College Grades of Applicants by Acceptance Status and by Specialization Plans, 1976-77 First-Year Class

Specialization Plans (1)	No. with MCATs (2)	% with MCATs (3)	Mean MCAT Scores VA (4)	QA (5)	Gen (6)	Sci (7)	No. with GPAs (8)	% with GPAs (9)	Mean UG GPAs BCPM (10)	AO (11)	Total (12)	Total Number (13)	% (14)
BASIC MEDICAL SCIENCE													
ACCEPTED	329	36.4	588	654	568	643	295	37.4	3.53	3.49	3.52	329	36.4
NON-ACCEPTED	573	63.5	531	585	525	572	488	62.3	3.10	3.19	3.14	573	63.5
TOTAL	902	7.1	552	610	540	598	783	2.1	3.28	3.31	3.29	902	2.1
FAMILY PRACTICE													
ACCEPTED	4538	35.6	548	620	545	611	4247	36.8	3.46	3.50	3.47	4538	35.6
NON-ACCEPTED	8196	64.3	521	561	514	545	7274	63.1	3.04	3.23	3.12	8196	64.3
TOTAL	12734	30.8	530	582	526	569	11521	30.9	3.20	3.33	3.25	12734	30.2
INTERNAL MEDICINE													
ACCEPTED	1037	39.0	585	639	559	630	969	40.5	3.47	3.50	3.48	1037	39.0
NON-ACCEPTED	1618	60.9	524	568	517	554	1419	59.4	3.03	3.16	3.09	1619	60.9
TOTAL	2655	6.4	548	596	534	583	2388	6.4	3.21	3.30	3.25	2656	6.3
OBSTETRICS/GYNECOLOGY													
ACCEPTED	380	30.7	553	603	531	583	345	32.2	3.33	3.45	3.38	380	30.7
NON-ACCEPTED	855	69.2	492	524	490	497	726	67.7	2.94	3.19	3.05	855	69.2
TOTAL	1235	2.9	511	548	503	523	1071	2.8	3.07	3.28	3.16	1235	2.9
PEDIATRICS													
ACCEPTED	1130	36.0	559	627	541	601	1060	38.0	3.45	3.55	3.49	1130	36.0
NON-ACCEPTED	2009	64.0	503	554	501	525	1726	61.9	3.01	3.24	3.11	2009	64.0
TOTAL	3139	7.4	521	580	514	553	2788	7.4	3.18	3.35	3.26	3139	7.4
PSYCHIATRY													
ACCEPTED	439	35.8	606	637	578	619	396	36.6	3.43	3.50	3.47	439	35.8
NON-ACCEPTED	786	64.1	548	581	538	539	681	63.3	2.93	3.21	3.07	786	64.1
TOTAL	1225	2.9	568	598	553	568	1075	2.8	3.17	3.32	3.22	1225	2.9
PUBLIC HEALTH, COMMUNITY MEDICINE													
ACCEPTED	598	35.4	580	615	557	605	573	37.7	3.35	3.42	3.38	598	35.4
NON-ACCEPTED	1088	64.5	527	565	523	535	945	62.2	2.97	3.18	3.06	1088	64.5
TOTAL	1686	4.0	546	574	535	560	1518	4.0	3.11	3.27	3.18	1686	4.0
SURGERY OR SURGICAL SPECIALTY													
ACCEPTED	1928	34.0	557	633	534	614	1778	35.7	3.48	3.51	3.50	1928	34.0
NON-ACCEPTED	3732	65.9	505	564	504	543	3202	64.3	3.04	3.21	3.12	3732	65.9
TOTAL	5660	13.7	523	589	514	567	4980	13.3	3.20	3.32	3.25	5660	13.4
OTHER KNOWN SPECIALTY													
ACCEPTED	584	36.1	587	648	562	632	542	37.2	3.48	3.51	3.50	584	36.1
NON-ACCEPTED	1030	63.8	536	583	527	561	915	62.8	3.07	3.22	3.13	1030	63.8
TOTAL	1614	3.9	555	607	540	587	1457	3.9	3.22	3.33	3.27	1614	3.8
PLAN TO SPECIALIZE AREA UNKNOWN													
ACCEPTED	1487	46.7	579	654	552	627	1372	47.8	3.55	3.58	3.57	1487	46.7
NON-ACCEPTED	1691	53.2	529	579	521	556	1498	52.2	3.14	3.29	3.20	1691	53.2
TOTAL	3178	7.7	552	614	536	589	2870	7.7	3.34	3.43	3.38	3178	7.5
DO NOT PLAN TO SPECIALIZE													
ACCEPTED	571	33.6	559	627	538	609	531	34.8	3.49	3.53	3.51	571	33.6
NON-ACCEPTED	1127	66.3	514	565	511	545	993	65.1	3.03	3.23	3.11	1127	66.3
TOTAL	1698	4.1	531	584	520	567	1524	4.0	3.19	3.33	3.25	1698	4.0
UNDECIDED													
ACCEPTED	2502	47.2	583	648	557	632	2292	47.5	3.55	3.57	3.56	2502	47.2
NON-ACCEPTED	2791	52.7	540	598	527	568	2524	52.4	3.14	3.30	3.22	2791	52.7
TOTAL	5293	12.8	560	617	541	598	4816	12.9	3.35	3.43	3.38	5293	12.5
NO-RESPONSE													
ACCEPTED	61	22.8	573	604	565	589	74	17.4	3.35	3.44	3.39	251	22.1
NON-ACCEPTED	206	77.1	528	563	524	538	370	82.5	2.89	3.04	2.96	884	77.8
TOTAL	267	0.6	539	571	534	549	448	1.2	2.97	3.11	3.04	1135	2.8

(Table A-8 continued)

(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)
TOTAL													
ACCEPTED	15584	37.7	573	633	549	618	14474	38.8	3.48	3.52	3.50	15774	37.4
NON-ACCEPTED	25698	62.2	521	544	515	544	22763	61.1	3.05	3.21	3.13	24341	62.5
TOTAL	41282	100.0	540	591	528	571	37239	100.0	3.22	3.34	3.27	42155	100.0

Table A-9

MCAT Scores and Undergraduate College Grades of Applicants by Acceptance Status and by Expected Character of Medical Practice, 1976-77 First-Year Class

Expected Character of Medical Practice	No. with MCATs	% with MCATs	Mean MCAT Scores				No. with GPAs	% with GPAs	Mean UG GPAs			Total Number	%
			VA	QA	Gen	Sci			BCPM	AO	Total		
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)
INDIVIDUAL													
ACCEPTED	2548	32.9	567	630	546	617	2191	34.2	3.49	3.53	3.50	2568	32.9
NON-ACCEPTED	5231	67.0	517	561	515	563	4595	65.7	3.02	3.21	3.10	5231	67.0
TOTAL	7799	18.8	534	584	525	588	6986	18.7	3.18	3.32	3.24	7799	18.5
PARTNERSHIP													
ACCEPTED	2858	37.7	581	621	537	609	2654	39.0	3.48	3.52	3.50	2858	37.7
NON-ACCEPTED	4705	62.2	511	560	508	562	4143	60.9	3.05	3.23	3.13	4706	62.2
TOTAL	7563	18.3	540	583	519	567	6797	18.2	3.22	3.34	3.27	7564	17.9
PRIVATE GROUP													
ACCEPTED	1831	42.1	578	634	553	619	1703	43.0	3.49	3.52	3.50	1831	42.1
NON-ACCEPTED	2515	57.8	532	588	519	550	2254	56.9	3.05	3.23	3.14	2515	57.8
TOTAL	4346	10.5	551	594	533	579	3957	10.6	3.24	3.36	3.29	4346	10.3
HOSPITAL BASED GROUP													
ACCEPTED	3323	36.7	569	634	546	615	3090	38.4	3.46	3.51	3.48	3323	36.7
NON-ACCEPTED	5715	63.2	514	563	510	560	4953	61.5	3.04	3.21	3.12	5715	63.2
TOTAL	9038	21.8	535	589	523	584	8043	21.6	3.20	3.34	3.26	9038	21.4
FULL-TIME TEACHING AND/OR RESEARCH													
ACCEPTED	619	38.9	586	657	563	642	562	40.4	3.54	3.53	3.54	619	38.9
NON-ACCEPTED	970	61.0	534	593	527	573	828	59.5	3.11	3.17	3.14	971	61.0
TOTAL	1589	3.8	554	618	541	600	1390	3.7	3.28	3.31	3.30	1590	3.7
PUBLIC HEALTH													
ACCEPTED	965	34.8	571	614	549	600	908	36.8	3.35	3.44	3.39	965	34.7
NON-ACCEPTED	1808	65.2	521	569	516	527	1556	63.1	2.98	3.21	3.09	1809	65.2
TOTAL	2773	6.7	539	572	528	552	2464	6.6	3.12	3.30	3.20	2774	6.5
INDUSTRIAL													
ACCEPTED	5	22.7	597	709	619	625	5	25.0	3.20	3.20	3.20	5	22.7
NON-ACCEPTED	17	77.2	518	566	513	542	15	75.0	2.80	3.06	2.93	17	77.2
TOTAL	22	0.0	536	599	537	560	20	0.0	2.95	3.15	3.05	22	0.0
MEDICAL ADMINISTRATION													
ACCEPTED	23	29.8	574	588	538	597	22	31.8	3.27	3.45	3.36	23	29.8
NON-ACCEPTED	54	70.1	496	529	501	487	47	68.1	2.76	3.04	2.89	54	70.1
TOTAL	77	0.1	519	544	512	520	69	0.1	2.94	3.17	3.05	77	0.1
OTHER													
ACCEPTED	273	36.2	574	637	557	617	250	38.3	3.44	3.50	3.47	273	36.2
NON-ACCEPTED	481	63.7	543	570	536	550	402	61.6	3.03	3.20	3.09	481	63.7
TOTAL	754	1.8	555	594	544	575	652	1.7	3.19	3.31	3.24	754	1.7
UNDECIDED													
ACCEPTED	3056	43.3	585	647	559	629	2813	43.9	3.53	3.55	3.54	3056	43.3
NON-ACCEPTED	3988	56.6	534	581	526	564	3595	56.1	3.12	3.28	3.19	3990	56.6
TOTAL	7044	17.0	554	610	540	592	6408	17.2	3.30	3.40	3.34	7044	16.7

(Table A-9 continued)

(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)
NO RESPONSE													
ACCEPTED	63	22.7	574	604	564	588	78	17.2	3.35	3.46	3.39	251	22.1
NON-ACCEPTED	214	77.2	529	559	525	535	375	82.7	2.87	3.03	2.96	892	77.9
TOTAL	277	0.6	539	569	534	547	453	1.2	2.96	3.11	3.03	1145	2.7
TOTAL													
ACCEPTED	15584	37.7	573	633	569	618	14476	38.8	3.48	3.52	3.50	15774	37.4
NON-ACCEPTED	25698	62.2	521	566	515	566	22763	61.1	3.05	3.23	3.13	26341	62.5
TOTAL	41282	100.0	546	591	538	571	37239	100.0	3.22	3.34	3.27	42155	100.0

Table A-10

MCAT Scores and Undergraduate College Grades of Applicants by Accepted Status and by Expected Location of Medical Practice, 1976-77 First-Year Class

Expected Location of Medical Practice	No. with MCATs	% with MCATs	Mean MCAT Scores				No. with GPAs	% with GPAs	Mean UG GPAs			Total Number	%
			VA	QA	Gen	Sci			BCPM	AO	Total		
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)
SMALL TOWN (LESS THAN 2,500)													
ACCEPTED	1992	34.2	567	618	564	613	1971	35.4	3.48	3.50	3.49	1982	34.2
NON-ACCEPTED	3811	65.7	514	555	513	541	3413	64.5	3.04	3.22	3.12	3811	65.7
TOTAL	5793	14.0	537	574	524	566	5284	14.1	3.20	3.32	3.25	5793	13.7
SMALL CITY (2,500 TO 50,000)													
ACCEPTED	5287	37.7	566	627	563	614	4905	38.7	3.52	3.54	3.53	5287	37.7
NON-ACCEPTED	8708	62.2	517	564	511	565	7763	61.2	3.08	3.25	3.16	8710	62.2
TOTAL	13995	33.9	535	588	531	571	12668	34.0	3.25	3.37	3.30	13997	33.2
MED SIZE CITY(50,000-500,000)													
ACCEPTED	4354	40.7	574	630	568	619	4031	41.9	3.50	3.54	3.52	4354	40.7
NON-ACCEPTED	6325	59.2	519	568	512	564	5580	58.0	3.07	3.24	3.15	6324	59.2
TOTAL	10681	25.8	542	597	537	574	9611	25.8	3.25	3.37	3.30	10682	25.3
LARGE CITY (500,000 OR MORE													
ACCEPTED	2655	43.8	583	639	580	622	2466	45.0	3.40	3.47	3.43	2655	43.8
NON-ACCEPTED	3404	56.1	529	583	523	564	3010	54.9	2.98	3.20	3.08	3404	56.2
TOTAL	6059	14.6	551	600	548	579	5476	14.7	3.17	3.32	3.24	6061	14.3
SUBURB OF A LARGE CITY													
ACCEPTED	745	41.1	588	638	585	640	680	41.0	3.57	3.60	3.58	745	41.1
NON-ACCEPTED	1067	58.8	521	584	513	558	974	58.9	3.04	3.28	3.17	1067	58.8
TOTAL	1812	4.3	548	601	538	592	1654	4.4	3.28	3.41	3.34	1812	4.3
NO RESPONSE													
ACCEPTED	550	19.8	577	631	562	618	523	20.5	3.26	3.29	3.28	749	19.4
NON-ACCEPTED	2393	81.0	537	578	535	554	2022	79.4	2.96	3.10	3.02	3041	80.5
TOTAL	2943	7.1	544	593	540	566	2545	6.8	3.00	3.14	3.07	3818	9.0
TOTAL													
ACCEPTED	15584	37.7	573	633	569	618	14476	38.8	3.48	3.52	3.50	15774	37.4
NON-ACCEPTED	25698	62.2	521	566	515	566	22763	61.1	3.05	3.23	3.13	26341	62.5
TOTAL	41282	100.0	546	591	538	571	37239	100.0	3.22	3.34	3.27	42155	100.0